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CHERVOV REVIEWS DIALOGUE WITH U.S. ON DISARMAMENT

LD111749 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1440 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Talk by Colonel General Nikolay Fedorovich Chervov, chief of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff; place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] The Soviet Union invariably and consistently favors reducing existing armaments to possibly lower mutually-agreed levels, and the complete elimination of the threat of a nuclear war. As emphasized in the statement by Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, our country even today remains devoted to this principled course. It is well known how persistently the Soviet Union is fighting in order to prohibit and liquidate nuclear weapons. For the sake of this objective, and given goodwill on the part of the United States, the Soviet Union is ready to embark on a very bold decision -- to make Europe absolutely free of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical, to reduce the strategic nuclear arsenal of the sides by more than one-fourth, to cease the production of nuclear weapons, and then to gradually liquidate their supplies.

It has appealed to other nuclear states to freeze nuclear weapons both quantitatively and qualitatively. The Soviet Union has committed itself unilaterally to the historic pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and has called upon the other nuclear states, first and foremost the United States, to follow this example. This summary of the Soviet Union's initiatives may be continued and we, the Soviet people, are proud of them, insofar as they all serve the strengthening of peace and security of the peoples.

Washington reacts in a negative manner to our initiatives, distorts them, deceiving the world public. But what have the U.S. ruling circles proposed to mankind in the field of nuclear disarmament? They have wrecked ratification of the SALT II treaty, up to now have deliberately not ratified the 1974 treaty on a limitation on underground nuclear tests, have not ratified the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, have broken off the talks on a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests, and avoid resuming them. The Reagan administration categorically refuses to commit itself to the pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. It is against a freeze in nuclear weapons and against a reduction in nuclear armaments. The administration has now wrecked the talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe. It is moving in virtually the same way at the talks on the problem of strategic armaments.

A question reasonably arises: Why is the United States adopting such an obstructionist stand on questions of security and disarmament? The reason is disclosed in official documents and speeches by heads of the U.S. Administration. Speaking in the White House in 1980, President Reagan set out his military-political directives in the following manner. I ask you to pay attention to this. The first directive was this: The United States must achieve world leadership and build the world in America's style only on the basis of strength.

Second directive: The restoration at any price of a reserve of security -- i.e. complete and unquestionable military superiority over the Soviet Union -- is an acceptable condition of relations with Moscow. My government's primary task, Reagan said, will be a program of rearming the United States in order to be the number one power in the military sense.

Third: The Pentagon's plans should envisage the use of nuclear weapons in many various ways -- selective, limited, unlimited, and so on. As President Reagan stated, he entirely assumes the possibility of a limited nuclear war in Europe. In such a war the United States, it is stated in the Pentagon's directive, must gain the upper hand and acquire the opportunity of forcing the Soviet Union to halt combat activities quickly.

Fourth: The White House will delegate a secondary role to questions of nuclear arms limitation, and if the need arises during implementation of military programs, then the administration will embark on any measures right up to renouncing previously signed agreements with the Soviet Union.

Such was Reagan's pre-election platform. Now, all these militaristic directives are being virtually implemented. There is one purpose behind the unprecedented buildup of U.S. military potential: to try to achieve military superiority, and then, by threatening force, to dictate their will on other peoples and states.

Of course, U.S. policy aimed at world domination is doomed to failure. Nobody can turn back the course of history, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov points out. The USSR and the other socialist countries will live and develop according to their own laws, the laws of the most advanced social system.

In connection with the growing militarization of U.S. policies, dialogue on disarmament questions is merely a screen to conceal Washington's aggressive strivings. I will cite a few facts:

The USSR has great experience in nuclear disarmament negotiations with various U.S. Administrations -- Nixon, Ford, Carter. We had our arguments, our differences, but in spite of this the Americans at that time heeded the view of their negotiating partner. We could see the purpose and aim of the talks.

In the 1970's, what lay at the basis of Soviet-U.S. talks? The main thing was the principle of equality and equal security. The sides approached the resolution of the problem realistically, and on the whole took account of the interests of each other's security. Thus accords were achieved -- SALT I, SALT II, and others.

Why can't we reach a compromise with the United States? Because they do not desire this. They are making an all-out effort for military supremacy. They set forth proposals which they know are unacceptable, aimed at the unilateral disarmament of the USSR. All the statements by Washington leaders about their supposed readiness to seriously seek accord on a radical arms reduction are deception, a two-faced policy. In fact, there is no such readiness.

At present, the United States and its allies have a different approach to negotiations. The principle of equality and equal security has been officially discarded, though this, afer all, is a violation of all previously signed documents including the SALT II treaty, which the present U.S. Administration has not ratified, but did pledge to observe. Now, the United States has one line: forcing, compelling the USSR to accept one-sided terms, and attaining military supremacy over it.

This is precisely the way the U.S. side behaved at the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe. For years, it sought to establish one thing only: How many U.S. missiles it could deploy in Europe. and what they might comprise. Striving to deploy its missiles come what may, the United States had no wish to reach accord on reducing medium-range nuclear arms. It purposefully led matters to a break in negotiations, and broke them off.

Now, the U.S. Administration has also led the negotiations on the problem of strategic arms into stalemate. The whole purpose of U.S. policy in this sphere lies in achieving the liquidation of almost all our intercontinental ballistic missiles, that is, undermining the foundation of the military might of the Soviet strategic nuclear forces, and upsetting the established parity in its favor.

Implementation of the U.S. proposals would in practice lead to U.S. supremacy over the USSR by 1.5 times in terms of delivery vehicles, and by more than 2.5 times in terms of nuclear warheads. But this is not all. The USSR would be compelled to carry out a fundamental reconstruction of its strategic nuclear forces, with expenditures running into billions, while Washington implemented its military programs according to plan, its hands completely free to unleash yet another arms race.

Does the United States understand that its one-sided approach has created a hopeless position at the talks on limiting and reducing strategic arms? There is no doubt that it does. Furthermore, that is what they are seeking. Adelman, the director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, frankly stated, and I quote: Arms control talks are a ploy that we are simply compelled to use to lull the American people and the European allies. No further comment is required.

The USSR, as our leaders have stated more than once, favors honest, equal negotiations, with observance of the principle of equal security. Nobody can expect the USSR to accept NATO's terms, which are aimed at conducting negotiations from a position of strength. Indeed, is it possible to count on an accord when the White House officially speaks out against the principle of equality and equal security?

Every sober-minded person will say "no".

To deny the principle of equal security, as the United States is now doing, is to deny the right of the USSR and its allies to security, to endeavor to obtain for the United States a unilateral advantage. But at the present time this cannot be realized. The USSR is not striving for military supremacy, but it will not permit others to have military supremacy over it. This has been stated more than once at the very highest level.

In connection with the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, the socialist countries are obliged to take effective countermeasures. These were clearly mentioned in the statement by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. These countermeasures are aimed at not permitting any upset in the military balance in favor of the United States and NATO, and thus guaranteeing security and peace in Europe.

The USSR has all that is required to resist any imperialist military threat. Our defensive might is being maintained at a level essential to ensure the peaceful work of the Soviet people. Our country's defense capability, said the statement by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, is on such a level that it would be inadvisable for anybody to arrange a trial of strength.

HEARINGS TO PRECEDE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE

LD111803 Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Stockholm January 11 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov report:

International hearings on questions of confidence-building and security have been scheduled to be held in the Swedish capital on January 15-16 on the eve of the opening of the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe.

The hearings, which have been initiated by the Swedish peace organisations, will be held with the participation of public figures and scholars, representatives of international peace organisations from many countries including from the USSR, the GDR, Finland, the USA and the FRG. In the course of the two-day meeting the delegates will discuss questions pertaining to eliminating the threat of a world thermonuclear catastrophe breaking out, creating a system of collective security of states and strengthening international detente. The hearings are to become a contribution by the anti-war movement to lasting peace on earth, to general and complete disarmament, to eliminating the nuclear threat.

The same aim is served by the mass action for peace and disarmament which is being sponsored by Sweden's major trade union federations. A rally is to be held in the central square of the Swedish capital on the day when the representative international forum will open with the participation of delegations from 33 European nations, the United States and Canada.

CONSULTATIONS WITH BELGIUM ON STOCKHOLM ISSUES

PM101444 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet-Belgian Consultations"]

[Text] On 5-6 January Soviet-Belgian consultations took place at the USSR Foreign Ministry on questions relating to the conference on confidence-building and security measures and disarmament in Europe, which opens on 17 January in Stockholm, as well as on some problems of disarmament and certain aspects of bilateral relations. Taking part in the consultations were A.L. Adamishin and V.F. Petrovskiy, members of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium; special envoy O.A. Grinevskiy; and Yu.M. Rybakov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Treaty and Legal Department, from the Soviet side; and (A. Kaen), director general of the Belgian Foreign Ministry Political Department; and R. Panis, Belgian ambassador to the USSR, from the Belgian side.

The Belgian delegation was received by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister A.G. Kovalev.

REAGAN, SHULTZ TALKS WITH ZHAO ZIYANG ASSESSED

LD111742 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1650 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Washington, 11 Jan (TASS) -- Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, who is here on an official visit has met President R. Reagan and Secretary of State G. Shultz. Questions of bilateral relations and international problems were discussed.

In the words of a representative of the U.S. Administration, "progress was noted" at the talks on the path toward concluding a series of agreements, including agreements in the nuclear sphere, on promoting American business participation in the implementation of "economic reforms" in the PRC, and on the extension of American capital investments in the Chinese economy. "The United States," Reagan stated, "is now China's third most important trade partner. American capital investments in China exceed the capital investments of any other country."

The Chinese premier, speaking at a White House dinner, expressed the hope that his visit to the United States and Reagan's forthcoming visit to the PRC will help ensure the "stable development" of Chinese-American relations, "whose broadening is still far from achieving the level it ought to reach." Zhao Ziyang went on to say that over the past few years "there have been alternate ups and downs" in these relations, and that even now "difficulties and obstacles exist," including the problem of Taiwan. He made it a condition of the further development of relations that there should be strict observance by the sides of the principles confirmed earlier in the joint communique.

From American reports it follows that, during the talks, U.S. and PRC relations with other countries, including "the Kampuchean and Korean regional problems," were discussed. It is obvious from these reports that R. Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz had tried to present Soviet policy on the Far East in a distorted light, resorting to trite claims about "Soviet military superiority," "the Soviet threat," and so forth.

If one judges by press reports, Zhao Ziyang failed to react to Reagan's calls for "mutual strategic plans and commitments," although he did say that the importance of Chinese-American relations "is not limited to the framework of normal bilateral relations, and these relations are regarded by the PRC as a factor influencing the situation throughout the world."

It has been officially announced in Washington that two agreements -- on industrial cooperation and on scientific-technical cooperation -- will be signed as an outcome of the talks.

Political observers believe that the Reagan administration, by pressing for accords between the two countries, is striving to develop American-Chinese economic and political links and to stimulate trends that are of benefit to the West in the PRC's foreign and domestic policies.

KISSINGER COMMISSION REPORT ON C. AMERICA SCORED

Aid to U.S. 'Proteges'

LD112159 Moscow Domestic Serivce in Russian 1900 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Kissinger's bipartisan commission presented recommendations to President Reagan in Washington today regarding U.S. policy in Central America. Here is a commentary by Vitaliy Sobolev:

The commission's report has not yet been made public, but its contents are well known to U.S. journalists. The most significant element in the report is an increase several times over of subsidies to the protege dictators of Central America and suppor for President Reagan's standpoint, albeit with some reservations.

The support was guaranteed by the choice of the members of the commission, who are appointed by the President himself, and the proposal that over the next 5 years the U.S. proteges be presented with roughly $8 billion is undoubtedly in accordance with the secret designs of the master of the White House, who had grounds for entrusting this initiative to loyal people. This way it has more chances of being approved in Congress than if the President himself had acted as its author. One has obtained, so to speak, an initiative from below, from congressmen themselves.

These fresh billions of dollars are intended to be the material means for the United States interfering even more in the affairs of Central American countries. This course is by no means a new one, but Washington would like to provide it, so to speak, with its second wind.

A comparison automatically arises between the results of the work of the Kissinger commission and the results of another discussion of the very same problems in Panama City. It is well known that was the venue a day or so ago for a meeting of the ministers of nine Latin American countries. Some of them -- the delegates from El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala -- in effect represented U.S. interests. It was these ministers who made every effort to see that the conference ended inconclusively. However, the task of the conference was to make a further stride toward a peaceful settlement of the Central American conflicts. The way to achieve such a settlement is clear -- namely, negotiations between all interested parties and a halt to foreign interference in the region's affairs. That is the proposal of the well-known Contadora Group, to which the influential Latin American countries Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama belong. They are supported by Nicaragua and the Salvadoran patriots. The United States, however, is putting obstacles in its way.

There is a radical divergence between the recommendations of the Kissinger commission and the plans of the Latin Americans. Even so, Washington's proteges in Panama City had to retreat a further step and sign a document that brings closer the moment of a peaceful settlement. This was only a small step, but it reflects the way the situation is changing in Central America -- and changing not to the benefit of imperialism. The United States has already spent many billions of dollars to halt these changes. But it has been successful. One cannot but think that these fresh billions will also fail to help Washington.

Report Backs 'Crude Force'

LD120034 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1945 GMT 11 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] The details of the report of the Kissinger commission -- the report of the National Commission on Central America -- have just been published. They have turned out to be even more gross and base than advertised. The Kissinger report calls for stepping up Uncle Sam's military interference in Central America.

It backs crude force and recommends what the Reagan administration is already doing. With friends like Kissinger, the people of Central America have no need of enemies. What's worse is that it is the U.S. military presence that is becoming the main -- if not the only -- obstacle to peaceful settlement in Central America.

This conclusion can also be reached following the recent meeting of eight Latin American foreign ministers on Contadora Island in Panama. The only point that was not agreed upon and adopted -- due to objections from Honduras and El Salvador -- was the removal of U.S. military advisers and troops.

Note that the other participants in the meeting -- and both Guatemala and Costa Rica were there -- did not protest against the Pentagon's removal from Central America. And this, especially for Guatemala, is something new. After the meeting between Guatemala's president, General Oscar Mejia Victores, and the leaders of Nicaragua, there was a change of tone in his statements. The general started to speak of noninterference in the affairs of other states. And only Honduras and the rulers of El Salvador, whom an American ambassador once called pathological murderers, defend the military presence of Washington in Central America. What is this presence for? Perhaps the defense of a few small states being threatened by someone?

Let's take Honduras. From its territory CIA mercenaries and Somoza's gangs make incursions onto Nicaraguan soil. This is a well-known fact. More than 5,000 U.S. soldiers are stationed in Honduras near the Nicaraguan border. This was also reported. Moreover, they are not sitting there doing nothing, but have been carrying on uninterruptedly for many months now the "Big Pine" maneuvers. "Big Pine I," "Big Pine II," and "Pine No III" are now being prepared. Near Trujillo, 100 Green Berets are training the Honduran infantry for incursions into Nicaragua. New 105-mm howitzers supplied by the United States are currently being mastered there. Also there in Trujillo the landing site is being extended and lengthened to accommodate the U.S. Hercules military transport planes. The U.S. naval forces have already invested $120 million in Puerto Castilla in order to deepen and widen the existing harbor to receive ocean-going transport vessels and U.S. squadrons. In the small port of San Lorenzo, 30 miles from the border with Nicaragua, American sappers are urgently completing construction of an airport capable of receiving Hercules planes crammed full of troops and equipment.

And this is not the end of the list of preparations for incursion into Nicaragua, which were reported by a special correspondent from the London weekly ECONOMIST. He reports that, together with the Air Force base in Pomeron, an American Army hospital has been set up. At present it has 60 beds, but it is capable of receiving up to 200 injured. It is getting ready for something. In this area also, there is a base for a U.S. helicopter battalion, to constantly airlift military equipment to the Nicaraguan border.

The journal's informed special correspondent reports the following about further plans: After a fresh incursion by Somoza followers' forces it is planned to set up somewhere on the territory of Nicaragua seized by them a so-called government of mercenaries. It will immediately be recognized by Honduras, El Salvador, and the Pentagon, of course. First, Honduran infantry trained by the Green Berets will be sent into the territory of Nicaragua; if they should fail, then the squadrons and U.S. Marines will be put into action.

Such is the scenario worked out in the Pentagon and quiet billions have been invested in this scenario. The plans have already been set in motion. Naturally, it will not be the Pentagon alone that will decide. The voice of the politicians will also be heard. Let us hope that this voice will be sober and cautioning and not like the one that seems to characterize the Kissinger commission report published today.

ZAGLADIN ON U.S. POLICY OF 'CONFRONTATION'

LD111413 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 11 TASS -- The Soviet Union and the other peaceloving countries and peoples have already warned: The world is approaching a dangerous crossroads. Either it will advance towards a greater security of the peoples or it will head along the road to nuclear catastrophe, Vadim Zagladin writes in the January issue of the magazine USA: ECONOMICS, POLITICS, IDEOLOGY. Recalling the recent course of events, the author writes, one cannot but ask oneself an alarming question: Have we not passed that crossroads already? Grounds for such a conclusion exist, Vadim Zagladin writes.

The present turn of events in the direction of confrontation effected by Washington is not the first in the history of post-war international relations. Thus, late in the 1940s Washington made a similar turn -- from cooperation with the USSR during the Second World War to confrontation that they got the name of "cold war". But that policy failed. It had to be scrapped.

The present-day attempts to revive the "cold war" are being made in conditions that are much less favourable for their organisers. On what do they count?

Many in the world ask themselves also another question: Where will the United States head now, a country with tremendous possibilities and bearing a very big share of responsibility for the course of events in the world? But there is yet no clear answer to this question, Vadim Zagladin writes. But at the same time a rough answer already can be given. If realism, a realistic evaluation of the genuine situation in the world arena take the upper hand over the narcotical headiness of "America's strength", if realisation of the true interests of the United States takes the upper hand over the policy based on illusionary interests, then confrontation will be rolled back and a new turn will take place also in the policy of the United States -- towards coexistence and peaceful cooperation. And such a turn is vitally needed, it is needed by all, including the United States itself. The genuine interests of America, which nobody, including the Soviet Union, intends to encroach upon have nothing in common with the course that is being pursued by Washington today, Vadim Zagladin stresses.

JAPAN'S ABE SEEKS BETTER DIALOGUE WITH USSR

PM111650 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by Yu. Vdovin: "Developing Dialogue"]

[Text] Tokyo, 9 Jan -- Japanese Foreign Minister S. Abe has expressed himself in favor of developing relations with the Soviet Union. In an interview with the newspapers ASAHI and MAINICHI, he pointed out that this is one of the main tasks of Japanese diplomacy in 1984. Japanese-Soviet relations, Abe said, "are the most stagnant sector of our foreign policy." Since I first took up my post, the minister said, the development of dialogue with the USSR has been one of my main wishes. I will continue to make efforts in this direction.

S. Abe also expressed himself in favor of Japan and West European countries using various opportunities to help improve U.S.-Soviet relations.

SOVIET, JAPANESE AMITY GROUPS SIGN AGREEMENT

LD111752 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 11 TASS -- The Union of Soviet Friendship Societies, the USSR-Japan Society and the Eastern Hokkaido Centre of Japanese-Soviet Friendship of the town of Kushiro signed a wide-ranging cooperation agreement for 1984 through 1986 in Moscow today.

"This agreement marks a fundamentally new and important stage in our cooperation," said Eduard Sarkisov, vice-president of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies who signed the agreement for the Soviet side. "It indicates that our relationship has reached a new high and that our friendly links have become stronger."

The agreement provides for staging exhibitions about the Soviet Union's fisheries and power industry as well as about various areas of the USSR, including the Kamchatka Peninsula, the Altai region, the Union Republic of Azerbaijan and the Autonomous Republic of Yakutia, in Eastern Hokkaido in 1985 and 1986.

The agreement also stipulates that a Soviet-Japanese public meeting "for friendship, goodneighbourhood and cooperation in the Far East" will be held next April in the Soviet city of Khabarovsk. It is planned to hold such meetings also in the future both in the Soviet Union and in Japan.

"I am grateful to representatives of the Soviet public for fruitful cooperation which produced this agreement," said Masaharu Muto, chairman of the board of the Eastern Hokkaido Centre of Japanese-Soviet Friendship in Kushiro who signed the document for the Japanese side. "It is a practical step towards strengthening contacts between our peoples, it is an action to the benefit of peace."

MEDIA NOTE DPRK'S KOREAN SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL

New Proposals Advanced

PM121123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "New Proposals Put Forward"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Jan -- KCNA reports that new proposals for the peaceful settlement of the situation on the Korean peninsula have been put forward at a session of the DPRK Central People's Committee and Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee held here.

Under the conditions of aggravated tension on the Korean peninsula caused by aggressive U.S. intrigues, the only path for the attainment of peace in Korea and its peaceful unification is constructive dialogue. To develop this dialogue the DPRK proposes holding tripartite talks with the participation of the DPRK, the United States, and South Korea. The talks should focus on he question of replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and withdrawing the U.S. troops from South Korea. It is also suggested that a nonaggression declaration be concluded between North and South under which the sides would undertake not to use armed forces against each other and would sharply reduce these forces' numerical strength and eliminate the state of military confrontation. The DPRK suggests subsequently holding talks between the DPRK and South Korea on the country's unification on the basis of already agreed principles of unification.

'Important Initiative' Taken

PM121124 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "DPRK: Important Initiative"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Jan -- KCNA reports that new proposals for the peaceful settlement of the situation on the Korean peninsula have been put forward at a session of the DPRK Central People's Committee and Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee held here.

The main responsibility for conservation of the tense situation in this region, a report on the session published here today says, rests with the United States, which is seeking to turn South Korea into its military base, has deployed nuclear weapons there, and is planning to deploy Pershing II missiles, cruise missiles, and neutron weapons.

Under the conditions of aggravated tension on the Korean peninsula caused by aggressive U.S. intrigues, the only path for the attainment of peace in Korea and its peaceful unification is constructive dialogue. To develop this dialogue the DPRK proposes holding tripartite talks with the participation of the DPRK, the United States, and South Korea. The talks should focus on the question of replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and withdrawing the U.S. troops from South Korea. It is also suggested that a nonaggression declaration be concluded between North and South under which the sides would undertake not to use armed forces against each other and would sharply reduce these forces' numerical strength and eliminate the state of military confrontation. The DPRK suggests subsequently holding talks between the DPRK and South Korea on the country's unification on the basis of already agreed principles of unification. These measures would serve as a reliable guarantee of peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

PAKISTAN MILITARY AT DRA BORDER 'TO PLEASE' U.S.

LD112022 Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] New Delhi January 11 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Vinogradov reports:

To please Washington Pakistan is now stepping up military preparations on the borders with the Democratic Republic of Pakistan [as received]. The offensive power of the Pakistani Air Force based on those areas has been considerably increased in recent months, the newspaper STATESMAN reports. A large number of aircraft of various types received by the Islamabad regime from overseas has been delivered to those areas. In the near future the latest American "F-16" fighter-bombers are expected to be sent to the areas bordering on the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. To increase the effectiveness of control of the airforce massed in that zone, Islamabad has recently established a special northern airforce command.

At the same time, as the Indian press reports, the land forces stationed there are being rearmed at an accelerated rate. Three Pakistani strike divisions are already deployed against the DRA. On top of that, as was reported in the BLITZ weekly, armoured personnel carriers, anti-tank missiles, self-propelled guns and other types of military equipment have already been sent to airfields near the city of Peshawar from the United States. The Ziaul Haq regime is planning to equip with the new weapons six new army brigades intended for combat operations in mountainous areas.

These dangerous militaristic activities, local observers point out, have considerably intensified after the recent visit to Pakistan of U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger, who assured Islambad of military and economic support by the United States. One of the central points of his tour was the provocative tour of the areas bordering on the DRA. The Reagan administration, the newspaper JAN YUG stresses, instigates Islamabad in every way possible to pursuing a policy hostile to Afghanistan, is stepping up its intrigues in the region in an attempt at complicating the situation around the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

NENASHEV DELEGATION RETURNS FROM INDIA MEETING

PM111519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 84 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Return"]

[Text] A CPSU Central Committee delegation headed by M.F. Nenashev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, which had been attending the meeting of the Indian National Congress Party headed by Indira Gandhi, returned to Moscow 3 January.

'SHARP INCREASE' IN WEST'S ANTI-INDIA PROPAGANDA

LD111131 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Edited by Anatoliy Yaroshevskiy]

[Text] The next dispatch is from India. Many Western media -- particularly numerous radio stations -- have started a campaign to undermine India's territorial integrity. Our correspondent, Dmitriy Biryukov, reports from Delhi.

[Begin Biryukov recording] The Government of India has decided to modernize 12 relay stations of All-India Radio in the country's north and northeast border regions and to improve radio information in these areas. According to the Indian press, this step is necessary to neutralize the recently intensified anti-Indian propaganda waged from abroad by subversive radio centers.

The population of the states of Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, and a number of others in the northeast of the country is subjected to an intensified onslaught from these radio stations. In every way possible, they incite the separation of these states from India and provoke conflict between various religious communities. The U.S. CIA has long been waging psychological warfare against India. The radio station Voice of America plays a not inconsequential part in this war. Its activity has recently increased noticeably. It now broadcasts in the main Indian languages practically around the clock. The Voice of America pays special attention to the Indian border states, particularly Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir, where separatist groupings linked to the CIA are active.

The press expresses indignation at the crude interference of U.S. radio services in the Indian people's international affairs. The Voice of America, writes the BLITZ weekly, has shown repeatedly that official Washington's sympathy is on the side of the ultrarightwing, chauvinist and reactionary organizations that threaten India's integrity.

Local observers note that the sharp increase in subversive propaganda is an integral part of the extensive anti-Indian campaign planned in the West. The fact that Chohan -- the self-styled president of the so-called Sikh state of Khalistan, who is in the pay of U.S. intelligence -- intends to proclaim solemnly on 26 January that the Khalistan government-in-exile has been set up, bears witness to this campaign now being prepared. The choice of this proclamation date has not been a coincidence; on 26 January the people mark their national day, Republic Day. [end recording]

It is with the aid of such methods as these that Washington wages psychological war against numerous developing countries, particularly India.

INDIAN OCEAN MUST NOT BECOME U.S. 'NUCLEAR LAKE'

PM110901 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Akhmedzyanov report: "Threat to the Indian Ocean"]

[Text] Delhi -- The special UN committee has again postponed the international conference on the Indian Ocean that should have taken place in Colombo long ago. This time it has been postponed until the first half of 1985. Discussing the latest postponement of the conference's convocation, the United Nations Indian representative directly accused the United States and other Western countries of wanting to drop the idea of convening it. As is known, this forum is to elaborate practical measures to implement the UN declaration to proclaim the Indian Ocean a zone of peace (1971). But Washington is acting in precisely the opposite direction.

The littoral and mainland countries of the Indian Ocean are alarmed by a number of dangerous new features of American imperialism's strategy. First and foremost there is the reequipment with more powerful nuclear weapons of the military arsenal at the Diego Garcia base and of ships playing Indian Ocean waters.

Second, there is the intensive arming of Pakistan. And last, there are unceasing attempts to draw nonaligned Sri Lanka into the orbit of U.S. military preparations.

As the Washington journal MIDDLE EAST RESEARCH AND INFORMATION REPORT asserts, in 1984 all warships and submarines in the Indian Ocean will be armed with long-range missiles with enhanced-yield nuclear warheads. Tank and artillery subunits and Marine Corps units belonging to the Rapid Deployment Forces will go over to nuclear weapons. Some 800 shells with neutron warheads have already been delivered to Diego Garcia from Italy, where it was originally planned to deploy them. Last year the Pentagon spent a billion dollars on modernizing and extending the Diego Garcia base. In the 5 years from 1982 through 1986, as Indian scientist and journalist B. (Bannerji) notes in his book "The Indian Ocean --Whirlpool of Concern," $30 billion will be spent to extend the U.S. military presence in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf.

There is serious concern in India over the systematic buildup of deliveries of modern weapons to Pakistan. In addition to the F-16 fighter-bombers, it is planned to send mighty C-130 transport planes there from across the ocean. The Pakistani military is clearly being steered toward a new conflict with India. Large Pakistani forces are being concentrated near India's borders, and new airfields are being built for stationing F-16 fighter-bombers arriving from the United States.

People in Delhi also look with concern at the game Washington is playing in the attempt to force Sri Lanka to make the Trincomalee base available to it. The tactics of financial promises are being used to this end. To exert pressure on Sri Lanka, imperialist agents provoked bloody clashes between the Sinhalese and Tamils on the island.

Items have appeared in the Indian press clarifying the recent trip to Colombo by Pentagon chief C. Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary. The HINDUSTAN TIMES, for instance, suggests -- not without foundation -- that Weinberger tried hard to persuade the Sri Lankan leaders to participate in U.S. plans to penetrate South Asia and undermine the Nonaligned Movement from within. To this end talks were held on building a Voice of America "relay" station on the island.

In an "appendix" to the draft agreement the American side included an item giving the United States the opportunity, in the event of an "emergency" endangering "free world" interests, to use the station as a communications center linking all U.S. military and naval bases in the Indian Ocean. Meanwhile, the radio station will act as the mouthpiece of American propaganda in South Asia.

Among the questions the American visitor discussed in Colombo, as the well-informed Indian magazine BLITZ notes, was that of transferring the headquarters of the Central Command (Centcom) to Sri Lanka. When you recall that Centcom's purpose is to coordinate actions for U.S. interference in events in the Near and Middle East -- especially in the Persian Gulf region -- it becomes clear what role is assigned by the American military to Sri Lanka and the naval base at Trincomalee.

The Indian Ocean's militarization causes India deep concern not only as a littoral state but also as the country that chairs the Nonaligned Movement. It consistently makes important initiatives to ensure peace and security in the Indian Ocean. At two major international forums in Delhi last year -- the meeting of heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries and the Commonwealth Conference -- the Indian Government took a number of important steps in this direction.

Our country joins India and other peace-loving states of the region in supporting the UN declaration to proclaim the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. At the Soviet Union's initiative, four rounds of talks were held with the United States on the Indian Ocean. In 1979 Washington refused to continue these talks, thereby demonstrating its lack of commitment to them.

To keep the United States from turning the Indian Ocean into an "American nuclear lake" and stop the dangerous military and political game that threatens the peoples' security is the task of all the region's peace-loving forces.

OFFICIALS ATTEND PRK ENVOY'S JUBILEE RECEPTION

PM111413 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Occasion of a Holiday"]

[Text] Hor Nam Hong, Kampuchean ambassador to the USSR, held a reception on 9 January on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of Kampuchea's formation.

The following were present at the reception: G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission; P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and the leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

U.S. PLANNED F-16 SALES TO ASEAN STATES SCORED

PM101030 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 5

[S. Agafonov article under the rubric "Telegram With Note": "Regarding a Decision"]

[Text] As the Philippines' PNA News Agency reports, the U.S. Government has decided to deliver U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers worth $2 billion to four ASEAN countries -- Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, and the Philippines.

To put it bluntly, this decision did not cause a major sensation since there had long been talk of the possibility of providing ASEAN with the latest version of U.S. fighters. Nonetheless, Washington has officially sanctioned the deal, which provokes the question: what do the F-16's mean for ASEAN? Naturally, we are talking in this instance not about the multirole aircraft's tactical-technical specifications, but rather, so to speak, about its tactical-political specifications.

Washington's desire to include ASEAN countries among its military-strategic assets has long been known. Essentially the involvement of states comprising this regional grouping in the implementation of Pentagon concepts in Southeast Asia and the transformation of ASEAN into a military bloc under U.S. aegis are the main goal of U.S. policy in the region. On this basis all Washington's actions regarding ASEAN countries are dictated primarily by militarist considerations.

Against this background the decision to deliver F-16 fighters to ASEAN countries is eloquent testimony that the United States is trying to raise military ties with members of the regional grouping to a qualitatively new level. For confirmation of this thinking you need only recall that F-16's have been "earned" only by the Pentagon's most valued partners -- Israel, Pakistan, and South Korea among others. This list alone makes it possible to surmise the political conditions with which Washington will surround the deal with ASEAN countries.

Just recently Admiral W. Crowe, commander in chief of the U.S. Forces in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, stated during a visit to Bangkok that the Pentagon is studying the possibility of siting chemical weapons and cruise missiles in Southeast Asia. Are launchpads for the deployment of these weapons not in store for ASEAN countries? The question is far from idle one, for the F-16's are expensive toys.

'INVINCIBLE' SINGAPORE ENTRY UNDERMINES ASEAN

BK120302 Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia 1330 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Alex Alekseyev commentary: "A Dangerous Customer for Singapore's Docks"]

[Text] One of the most modern ships of the British Royal Navy -- the antisubmarine aircraft carrier "Invincible" -- has arrived in Singapore for 2 weeks of repairs.

The "Invincible" arrived in Singapore following a long cruise connected with combat exercises in the Pacific Ocean. These exercises have drawn mass media attention in the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. Although there was a serious accident when the "Invincible" hit a submerged rock, what aroused the great attention of both official and public circles was the subsequent effort by the British Admiralty to repair this aircraft carrier in an Asian country.

Authorities in Australia and later in Japan sought advanced British guarantees that the aircraft carrier was not carrying any nuclear weapons as a condition for permission to enter their harbors. Australia and Japan are afraid of possible strong antinuclear demonstrations by peace-loving people that might complicate or even about the repairs. Moreover, according to the Tokyo press, the "Invincible" apparently still has the whiff of gunpowder about it as not long ago it took part in the aggressive British adventure in the South Atlantic. The British command could not make such a guarantee because it is no longer a secret to military experts that the "Invincible" is the Navy's mobile nuclear base.

According to the British press, the "Invincible" is equipped with Sea Dart missiles which, among other things, can hit surface targets and those along the coast as well. It carries Sea King antisubmarine helicopters and Sea Harrier fighter planes described in British military handbooks as nuclear weapons carriers. It is because of this that Australian and Japanese authorities consider the "Invincible's" repair to be a crude violation of their official policies on nuclear arms.

Meanwhile, now that the aircraft carrier "Invincible" has docked in one of the ASEAN member states -- Singapore -- it is proper to ask to what extent activities in Southeast Asian waters tally with ASEAN's political principles and program objectives because its main objective -- reaffirmed by its leaders on many occasions -- is to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality.

At the ASEAN foreign ministers conference in Thailand in 1973 it was decided, among other things, that the use, stockpiling, production, or testing of nuclear weapons and their components were prohibited within this zone. In this connection it is clear that the entry into Singapore of a British aircraft carrier which carries nuclear weapons undermines the basic decision of the Kuala Lumpur declaration of ASEAN nations on the establishment of a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality.

Millions of people in densely populated Southeast Asia want to live under peaceful conditions in a nuclear-free zone. The dangerous decision of the Singapore authorities contravenes their desire and interests.

USSR FAVORS NORMALIZATION WITH ALBANIA

AU111735 Moscow in Albanian to Albania 1530 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary on occasion of 38th anniversary of proclamation of the People's Republic of Albania]

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union is consistently for the normalization of relations with the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and for their development on the basis of strict respect for equality, sovereignty, territorial integrity, noninterference in each other's affairs, and mutually beneficial cooperation. This, in our country's opinion, corresponds with the interests of both our countries and of the cause of the anti-imperialist struggle, particularly in the complicated current international situation.

The Soviet people wish the Albanian working people well on the 38th anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. We sincerely wish them great successes at work, happiness in life, and the fulfillment of their aspirations.

DEMICHEV MEETS WITH POLISH CULTURAL DELEGATION

LD112226 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] A protocol on cooperation between the USSR Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Culture and Art of the Polish People's Republic [PPR] for 1984 has been signed in Moscow. Questions of the further development and deepening of of Soviet-Polish cultural links in accordance with this document were discussed on 11 January during a conversation between Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and a delegation from the PPR Ministry of Culture and Art led by Comrade Janas, a deputy minister. In particular, provision has been made for the holding of Polish Cultural Days in April this year in the USSR, devoted to the 40th anniversary of the founding of the PPR.

MEETING OF POLISH TRADE UNION CHIEFS REPORTED

PM120915 Moscow TRUD in Russian 10 Jan 84 p 1

[Own correspondent Yu. Vasilkov report: "Meeting of Trade Union Leaders"]

[Text] Warsaw, 9 Jan -- A meeting of the leaders of 13 Polish national trade union organizations was held to discuss topical problems of the Polish trade unions' activity.

It was acknowledged that the solution of many questions, which are important for the entire trade union movement, require the elaboration of general positions, uniform for all trade unions. In this connection, it was suggested that a collegium of chairmen of Polish national trade union organizations be established, which will be one of the first steps along the road to the unification of Polish trade unions.

U.S.-NATO W. EUROPE CHEMICAL WARFARE PLAN HIT

U.S. Avoids Agreements

LD111711 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 11 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Vladimir Serov writes:

Presented at the Foreign Ministry of the USSR to the embassies of a number of Western countries, an aide-memoire with the "proposal of the Warsaw Treaty member states to the NATO member states on the question of ridding Europe of chemical weapons" is regarded by all objective analysts as an important step in the pursuit by the countries of the socialist community of their principled and consistent line of easing international tensions, ending the arms race, achieving disarmament and eliminating the war threat.

And at the same time some Western, above all American, propaganda organs are attempting to detract from the importance of this peace initiative, and to present it as a single, isolated step by the USSR and its allies which, allegedly, of late have taken the path leading to ending the talks on arms limitations and disarmament, and are responsible for the deadlock that developed at the talks. Thus a clearly bad-faith attempt is being made to exonerate the true guilty parties responsible for the disruption of the talks, for the unprecedented arms race and for the aggravation of international tensions -- the USA and its closest NATO allies.

By adopting its course of sharply stepping up armaments and reaching a military superiority over the Soviet Union it was Washington that did everything to avoid agreements and to torpedo the talks. It was the Reagan administration, which set itself the aim of deploying new U.S. first strike missiles in Western Europe and making the continent into a potential "theatre for a limited nuclear war", that had from the outset "programmed" the Geneva talks as aimless and holding out no promise of success and was working for their disruption. It was the U.S. Administration, which reduced to naught the already signed SALT II, and worked for the disruption of the talks on strategic arms limitations and reductions, on the total ban of all nuclear weapons tests, the Vienna talks on the mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, the talks onthe Indian Ocean, on limiting the sales of conventional arms, of the talks on banning chemical weapons. Washington is doing everything possible to prevent a comprehensive political settlement in the Middle East with the participation of all the parties concerned, engages in crude armed interference in Lebanon, Central America and other regions of the globe.

To counter this dangerous destructive policy, the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Treaty allies are working indefatigably for implementing a broad program of actions, aimed at ending the arms race and removing the war threat, -- the program put forward in the Prague Political Declaration of the Political Consultative Committee and in the joint statement of the participants of the Moscow meeting of seven socialist states. This program includes, among other things, the proposal to conclude a treaty on reciprocal non-use of military force and maintaining peaceful relations betwen the participants of the military-political groupings, and a question about freezing nuclear weapons of all nuclear powers, above all of those of the USSR and the USA, etc. Their efforts aim at achieving a turn in the international situation for the better and to halt the slide toward the abyss, in the interests of all mankind.

Chemical War Risk Increased

LD111922 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 11 Jan 84

[From the "World Today" program, presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] Hello, comrades! The proposal of the participant states in the Warsaw Treaty to rid Europe of chemical weapons is being widely discussed today in Western Europe. This is a burning problem. The risk of chemical war has increased. An American arsenal of poisonous substances has been pumped into Western Europe, onto the territory of the FRG and Britain.

The latest NATO maneuvers are being conducted on the territory of West Germany; chemical war is being simulated, with the latest poisonous substances and army overalls being tested. The British Ministry of Defense has acquired the latest American nerve paralyzing weapons. The British Army on the Rhine has been in the poison gas zone in the course of the NATO maneuvers and is now undergoing decontamination. The United States is striving to transform Europe into a gigantic gas chamber. It would like to make its towns, gardens, parks and rivers into a chemical battlefield. This is why the latest proposals by the Warsaw Treaty have met with such a positive reaction.

NATO To Use Chemical Weapons

LD120922 Moscow TASS in English 0748 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] New York January 12 TASS -- The Pentagon and the NATO military circles are planning a future war with the utilisation of chemical weapons. This follows from an interview of the commander of the NATO allied air force in central Europe General Billy M. Minter with ARMED FORCES JOURNAL.

The general spoke in favour of the buildup of American chemical arsenals and, specifically, of the production of binary chemical weapons. He said that the U.S. and NATO needed a rather reliable offensive chemical potential.

Minter's statements make it clear that the Pentagon and the NATO military proceed from the assumption that a chemical war will be fought primarily in Europe. He stressed that intensive work was under way to deploy chemical potential on the European theatre of military operations.

ITALIANS WANT TROOPS WITHDRAWN FROM LEBANON

PM111337 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent N. Paklin under the rubric "Apropos Remarks": "NATO Withdrawing in Order To Remain?"]

[Text] Rome -- On his return from Lebanon, where he spent New Year's Eve among the Italian soldiers and officers, Italian Defense Minister G. Spadolini hastened to the Chigi Palace, the residence of the Council of Ministers. There he met with head of government B. Craxi. "This meeting," CORRIERE DELLA SERA writes, "marks the start of the operational phase of the reduction of our military contingent stationed in Lebanon." Are there, however, sufficient grounds to draw such categorical conclusions?

The fate of Italian soldiers included in the so-called "multinational forces" (together with U.S., British, and French units) is a matter of deep concern among the Italian public. The Italians are becoming increasingly aware that the "multinational force" is far from serving the cause of peace in Lebanon. Its "peace mission" is nothing more than a specious excuse to establish the Pentagon's military presence in the Near East.

The opposition forces, including the It lian Communist Party, have long been demanding the withdrawal of the Italian military contingent from Lebanon. This demand has recently been also echoed by the ruling circles. The newspaper LA REPUBBLICA noted that "the Christian Democratic and Liberal Parties, which belong to the government coalition, are advocating the Italian soldiers' speediest return home."

The same thought was voiced by government member Liberal A. Biondi. Italian President A. Pertini has also spoken on several occasions in favor of the withdrawal of Italian soldiers.

Matters have gone so far that the government intended to discuss the question of the Italian military contingent's further presence in Lebanon at its 28 December session. This was announced in the press. The question was, however, taken off the agenda at the last moment. The ministers simply shrugged their shoulders in reply to journalists' perplexed questions about the reasons why. The answer came from across the ocean. The U.S. State Department declared: "We have recieved assurances that the Italian Government's policy regarding Lebanon and the Italian contingent belonging to the multinational force has not changed. Italy continues to share our viewpoint regarding the great importance of the multinational force." The State Department also unceremoniously refuted A. Pertini's statements, remarking that they were allegedly "misunderstood." This unceremonious attitude has caused the Italian public's indignation. It has thus become clear that there is no "perplexity" here. The only thing that there is, is crude U.S. pressure on its NATO ally. The newspaper L'UNITA remarked that, "in the face of U.S. demands," the Italian Government considered it better not to touch upon the delicate Lebanese subject.

Washington exerted pressure on Italy along other lines, too. The U.S. "Fifth Column" was brought into action in the apennine country. Especially vociferous statements against the withdrawal of Italian troops from Lebanon were made by Social Democrats and Republicans, who invariably take their line from the United States and maintain close contacts with Israel's ruling clique.

Nevertheless, the growth of dissatisfaction within the country and of differences within the ranks of the ruling coalition, the deteriorating situation in Lebanon as a result of Israel's latest piratical actions, and France's decision to reduce its Lebanese contingent within the "multinational force" by almost 25 percent are all forcing the Italian Government to continue its maneuvers and seek compromises. Government circles have resumed discussions on the proposal by Council of Ministers Chairman B. Craxi concerning the "restructuring" of the Italian military contingent in Lebanon, taking it to mean, according to CORRIERE DELLA SERA reports, a certain reduction in it. Such a compromise solution, as people here believe, will not encounter objections by the United States: you see, the White House needs the Italian contingent, just like the contingents from the other NATO countries, not only as a military force but also as camouflage to give its aggressive actions an "international character."

The overwhelming majority of Italians, however, reject such a "cosmetic" solution. Italy's public and democratic circles are calling for the complete and speediest withdrawal of all Italian soldiers from Lebanon.

ITALIAN CP MEETS ON EEC, U.S. POSITIONS

LD110931 Moscow TASS in English 0843 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Rome January 11 TASS -- The Central Committee and the Central Control Commission of the Italian Communist Party have ended a full-scale meeting after expressing serious concern at the aggravation of the crisis gripping the European Economic Community and at the increasingly sharp contradictions within this regional grouping.

They strongly criticized the present U.S. Administration for fuelling the nuclear arms race. It was pointed out at the meeting that the growing exchange rate of the U.S. dollar, the artificial overstatement by the United States of its bank rates and Washington's protectionist policy with regard to its West European allies has an adverse effect on the West European economies, causing the massive curtailment of production and raising the rate of unemployment. The number of jobless in the Common Market countries at present stands at 12 million and will reach an estimated 13.5 million by year's end.

The meeting was addressed by Enrico Berlinguer, general secretary of the Italian Communist Party.

ITALY THIRD LARGEST WEST TRADE PARTNER FOR USSR

LD101929 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 10 TASS -- In the past year of 1983 trade between Italy and the Soviet Union exceeded 4,000 million roubles, and Italy retained third place among the USSR's biggest Western trade partners, a TASS correspondent has been told by Giuseppe Melodia, head of the permanent representation in Moscow of "Banco di Napoli". Even more favourable prospects for further growth of trade, he said, will open in 1984 after the signing of a contract for the purchase of gas in the USSR within the framework of the "gas-pipes" deal -- the deal which is to be concluded, as is believed in Italy's business circles, in the near future.

A still greater number of Italian firms start trading with the Soviet Union. Many representatives of the business world of Italy visit Moscow, said Giuseppe Melodia, and Italian banks, which they are clients of, are already preparing for a greater number of these visits.

Four Italian banks are now accredited at the USSR State Bank in Moscow and have their permanent representations. Another three Italy's bank have already requested accreditation and are preparing to send their representatives to the USSR. No other Western country is so largely represented by its financial institutions in the Soviet Union, stressed Giuseppe Melodia.

Representatives of more than 20 Italian firms used the services of the Moscow representation of "Banco di Napoli" in 1983. They held here scores of meetings with representatives of Soviet organizations. Among them there were firms which made the first-ever attempt to appear in the Soviet market, and some of them got Soviet orders right away. Thus, the "Sicme" firm sold machine-tools in the USSR for the first time, while drilling pipes were purchased from the "Breda Fuccine" firm. Last year "Banco di Napoli" held for Soviet specialists a symposium on problems of oil refining and gas processing.

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR AUSTRIAN CP CONGRESS

LD120845 Moscow TASS in English 0818 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- A CPSU delegation consisting of the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Nikolay Ryzhkov (head of the delegation); and member of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Kharkov regional committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine Vladislav Mysnichenko left Moscow for Vienna today to attend the 25th congress of the Communist Party of Austria at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Yegor Ligachev; members of the CPSU Central Committee -- the chief administrative officer of the CPSU Central Committee, Nikolay Kruchina; the first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, Vadim Zagladin; and high-ranking officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

USSR MEDIA HIT U.S. INTEREST IN CYPRUS ISSUE

'Privileges' in North

LD102337 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 10 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] And another report from Washington: Spiros Kiprianou, president of the Republic of Cyprus, met U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and discussed with him the situation arising from the declaration of the so-called independent Turkish-Cypriot state in the northern part of the island. The day before Kiprianou held talks in New York with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar on the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution of 15 November last year condemning this separatist act and calling for the unilateral decision of the leadership of the Turkish community of Cyprus to be revoked.

I was in Nicosia recently and met the president of the Republic of Cyprus and also other political and public figures of this country, which is again going through a serious crisis. Many Cypriots think that the separatist act of the leadership of the Turkish community, leading to the splitting of Cyprus and to a dangerous exacerbation of the situation in this region, was inspired by the big powers of NATO, primarily the United States and Britain. We must not be deceived by the positions of Washington and London, which have not recognized the so-called Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus -- said the Secretary General of the AKEL Party Ezekias Papaioannou. Although the State Department has expressed some criticism regarding the action of the Turkish Cypriots, describing these actions as a source of unnecessary tension in relations between NATO countries, Washington has not, however, resorted to threats to adopt effective measures to prevent the creation of a pseudo-government structure on the territory of Cyprus.

Moreover, in certain American circles the statement by the leaders of the Turkish community on Cyprus that they are ready to offer privileges to the American armed forces in their zone was greeted with obvious satisfaction. A specialist in U.S. strategy Helb, in an article published by the West German newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE, revealed that the airport which is under construction in the Turkish sector of Cyprus is to be used by the American Rapid Deployment Force. The NATO powers for a long time have been aspiring to turn Cyprus into their strategic bridgehead on the eastern Mediterranean. It is situated just 65 km from the southern coast of Turkey and is 20 minutes flight from Lebanon and Syria. It is not in vain that Arabs say that if the cock crows in Cyprus we will hear it in Latakia.

There are two British military bases on Cyprus, which are actively used by the Pentagon for its military operations in this region, specifically for the transfer of equipment and ammunition for the contingent of the American Marines in Beirut. NATO diplomacy is at the moment working out a new variation for the resolution of the Cyprus problem, which would take into account first and foremost the strategic interests of the West in this region.

Seen as U.S.-NATO Base

NC092025 Moscow in Greek to Cyprus 1800 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Recent reports arriving from Cyprus indicate that the leaders of the Turkish community -- despite the severe condemnation of the UN Security Council and the international community -- continue their illegal activities which lead, in essence, to the partition of the island.

They have formed their own government and parliament and they are preparing a scenario for presidential elections. They recently even resorted to activities aimed at limiting the operations of the UN force in the northern part of Cyprus. They even threaten to cancel UNFICYP's [UN Forces in Cyprus] mission in the north.

The imperialist U.S. circles and NATO, who aim at placing a fait accompli before the international community, resort to various maneuvers around Cyprus, and in this way they encourage the high-handed actions of the Turkish Cypriot leaders. The U.S. Administration, as has happened many times in the past, took the pose of a neutral country and even expressed regret over what happened in Cyprus. This, however, is nothing more than simple hypocrisy by the White House in its efforts to declare itself innocent in face of world condemnation of the efforts of the Turkish community to legally establish the partition of the island.

This is exactly what the United States, and its closest allies in NATO, wanted to achieve by secretly inspiring the July 1974 coup on the island, as well as the landing of Turkish troops which followed. As it is well known, the coup in Cyprus, which started under the rule of the Greek military-fascist junta -- leading Greece and Turkey to the brink of war between these two NATO allies -- boomeranged on the coupists themselves.

The junta fell and was replaced by the civilian Karamanlis government. Yet the U.S. efforts for partition of the island have not ceased. As reported immediately after the 1974 events by the German magazine SPIEGEL, Kissinger, and nobody else, after lauding the personalities in the new Greek civilian government as old U.S. friends, recommended they accept the Turkish proposal for the island's partition.

In Washington, by expressing hypocritical sorrow over today's partitionist steps by the Turkish community, which declared the establishment of the so-called independent Turkish state in north Cyprus, they prefer to forget the past. For example, there is the fact that U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Davis -- during the peak of the reactionary coup against the legal government of President Makarios -- was the only diplomat who received the so-called foreign minister of the government of the self-proclaimed president of Cyprus, terrorist and gangster Sampson. It also remains a fact that the U.S. Administration was the only one -- apart from the Athens junta -- which hastened to raise the question of official recognition of the puppet government headed by the usurper from Nicosia [Nicos Sampson].

It must be underlined that the double game of the White House which supported double Enosis, or in other words, division of Cyprus between its two smaller allies within NATO, failed. Developments at that time escaped from the control of the plotters of the Cypriot plot. Yet Washington did not abandon its efforts to make gains from the Cypriot crisis.

The current divisionist act of the leaders of the Turkish community in Cyprus is the direct result of the machinations of the very same Atlantic circles against Cyprus and against its nonaligned policy. These circles, donning the cloak of supporter of Cyprus and the cloak of supporter of a just solution for Cyprus, try with all available means to find ways to legalize the island's partition and turn it into a U.S.-NATO attack base in the east Mediterranean against the progressive countries of the Near East, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries.

This is the very aim of the U.S. plan for a solution to the Cyprus issue, with which Washington would like to replace the recnet UN Security Council resolution, which calls upon the international community not to recognize any other Cypriot state except the Republic of Cyprus.

The maneuvers of Washington justifiably cause indignation among the people of Cyprus and other countries of the world which demand implementation of the UN Security Council resolution, which shows the way toward a just and firm settlement on the island.

CREEK SPOKESMAN ON NUCLEAR STANCE, U.S. VISITORS

LD111802 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Athens January 11 TASS -- A high-ranking United States delegation is currently on a visit in the capital of Greece for talks with representatives of the Government of Greece on military issues. The delegation, including five members of the United States Congress and 15 representatives of the U.S. State Department and the Pentagon, was received by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou of Greece. Talks were held with representatives of the ministries for foreign affairs, defence and national economy. The American emissaries are also to visit the four main United States military bases in the territory of Greece.

Simultaneously Greece was visited by U.S. Admiral William Small, Commander-in-Chief of the NATO joint force in the southern zone of Europe, who, apart from talks with representatives of the Greek Armed Forces, made inspection tours to U.S. military bases in Greece.

This heightened attention on the part of the USA and NATO emissaries to Greece is by no means accidental. As the local press points out, Greece's special stand at the latest "Atlantic week" in Brussels, especially on the issue of the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries, and the energetic statements made by the government of Andreas Papandreou for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans have caused serious exasperation and alarm in Washington. The Atlantic "hawks" are also alarmed by the problem of the future of the United States military bases in the territory of Greece, in particular, the intention of the Government of Greece to start a detailed study of the question of cancelling more than 108 interim agreements in connection with the functioning of the United States military facilities, which enjoyed certain privileges.

That is precisely why Washington and NATO are continuing to bring powerful pressure to bear on Greece to make her change her stand in the field of relations with the United States and the North Atlantic bloc, and push the country even more closely to the NATO's war machine. With that aim use is made of economic levers and open blackmail is attempted, including, in particular, through the use of the Cyprus problem and the situation in the Aegean Sea.

Criticising these attempts, Dhimitrios Maroudhas, a spokesman for the Government of Greece, made a special statement for the press, stressing that his government will carry on efforts to end the arms race, for peace and detente, and that the stand of the Greek Government on the question of nuclear weapons is no tactical move but remains the basic and invariable objective of the policy proclaimed by the Greek people and the basic stand at the elections of 1981, in which the Pasok Party scored a landslide victory. Addressing those who are concerned over this principled policy, the spokesman for the government stressed that Greece determined its stand with due regard for the interests of the Greek people and of the nation, and it was not going to yield to pressure.

SWEDISH NEUTRALITY 'SEPARATE' FROM ARMY METHODS

PM061045 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by D. Kiselev and S. Maslov: "'Russian Lessons' Swedish-Style or Something About Neutrality and Generals"]

[Text] The teachers address their pupils in Russian. Then they switch to the language of fists. Again there are orders in Russian -- one more passage from the grammar book of fighting....

We do not intend to describe in detail the system of training in the military school in the Swedish city of Uppsala, but its students must be agonizingly familiar with something of this kind....

Perhaps they have thought up some new method of foreign language teaching in Uppsala? Not at all. The local Swedish Army military school trains specialists in interrogation. Here they are taught to speak Russian...with their enemies.

Indeed, we could be wrong in our choice of expression; perhaps they are not enemies at all but a so-called "potential foe?" But in the end what importance does this have by comparison with the choice of "pedagogical credo" which the Swedish Army has made? A choice obviously hostile to our country.

Failed "specialists" from Uppsala told press representatives of the existence in the Swedish Armed Forces of a subunit of professional sadists with a knowledge of Russian. The training sessions in which they took part were more like torture. "We tried to stop the violence. We protested when we were forced to beat our bound comrades. But the commanders explained to us that this was a totally realistic exercise...," F. Ewrlof, and F. Ekman, both 19, and T. Zachariasson, 20, who tried to desert from Uppsala, told the Stockholm newspaper EXPRESSEN.

The military school students are given broad opportunities for the practical checking of the skills they had acquired. The time comes when the future "specialists" leave for other Army subunits -- for practice. Everything in which they engage there must obviously be viewed as the formation of staunchness in their compatriots in military uniform. In the training farces staged by the visiting actors from Uppsala, their fellow countrymen are assigned the role of prisoners of war. They are helped to get into their parts....

"I was tied up and a hood was put over my head. My arms were tied to a pipe. Then someone hit me with a wooden stick," 20-year-old Magnus Hult, a military diver, told the newspaper VARNPLIKTS NYTT. The incident involving him and his fellow servicemen last summer deserves attention.

Everything began in the spirit of the cheap fantasy stories of "Russian submarines" which the Swedish bourgeois press has been tirelessly hunting in the murky waters of anti-Sovietism. "We were sleeping on the ship," Magnus Hult says. "Suddenly we heard orders in Russian. Then, in broken Swedish: 'All hands on deck!' We obeyed the order."

Here Magnus Hult should have woken up...but it was not a dream, but a living nightmare. But for the "practical workers" from Uppsala it was just a routine training session during which, to all appearances, they were representing "the perfidious Russians."

The reader already knows of Magnus Hult's first impression of his meeting with his unexpected guests. The outcome of the night-long torture and outrages he and his fellow servicemen had to endure was lamentable. Magnus Hult actually said: "I confess that I wept."

The arrival of the visitors from Uppsala can perhaps be compared with the arrival of a field inquisition whose mission includes, in addition to the rest, the reeducation of those who do not believe in the "Soviet threat." The "apostates" did not have tears in their eyes -- they were seeing stars. Two words in Russian, then a blow with a cudgel.... But that is not how you educate people, it is how you train animals. Anti-Sovietism at the level of a reflex, so to speak....

Let us venture the remark that it a question of the Armed Forces of a state that does not let slip any opportunity to harp on its neutrality. Let us also note that it is a question of a neutrality our country has always treated and now treats with due respect. An amazing conclusion suggests itself: Perhaps Swedish neutrality and the Swedish generals are totally separate things?

Incidentally, certain politicians in the West draw their own conclusions in this connection. Back in 1981, for example, U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger frankly declared: "I do not believe that Sweden is neutral." And he emphasized "the U.S. interest in there being strong Swedish defense." Of course, the Pentagon chief's statement aroused indignation in broad circles of the Swedish public. But no apologies ensued from the United States. And the reason for this impudence should be sought not only in the present Washington administration's general line of conduct but also in the actions of Swedish military circles, whose business ties with U.S. and NATO colleagues have long been public knowledge.

Let us turn to the facts. It is an open secret that Swedish officers are instructed and undergo practical training [stazhirovka] in the United States, while NATO officers, having changed into Swedish Army uniforms, have inspected military installations on Swedish soil and have been present at tests of new hardware. NATO weapon transports have been allowed across Swedish territory, and major maneuvers by the Swedish Armed Forces in recent years have strangely coincided both in time and in terms of the tasks being rehearsed with NATO exercises in northern Europe. An agreement has been concluded with the Americans on the exchange of information of a military nature. Detailed maps of Sweden, essential for cruise missile navigation systems, have even been sent across the ocean....

Or take this "trifle," for example: In a Swedish Army subunit stationed in the small town of Arvidsjaur, soldiers were made to sing an American marching "song" with the following words: "We will kill, destroy, and execute communists, Russians, Vietnamese ...." The words make you think, do they not...?

The bourgeois Swedish press continues to go on about mythical "Russian submarines" of the country's coasts. It does not tire of assuring readers that, on the question of the existence of some "Soviet threat" to Sweden's sovereignty, it is on the point of dotting the "i's". Of course, the dots do not turn up. Instead, there are big dirty blots every time. We have no doubts left as to why the provocative ballyhoo was needed. It suits certain Swedish circles. It is advantageous: In this way they have a better chance of justifying their own actions in the eyes of the public.

Otherwise, how can they teach young Swedes to speak Russian with an anti-Soviet accent?

INTER-ARAB MEETING HITS ISRAELI ROLE IN LEBANON

PM111145 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jan 84 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Tense Situation"]

[Text] Beirut, 10 Jan -- The situation in Lebanon remains tense owing to Israel's continuing aggression and the armed interference by the so-called "Multinational Force" consisting of U.S. Marines and their NATO allies.

In the south of the country's the Israeli occupiers are stepping up terror and repression against the local population. An interventionist patrol fired on a school bus in the main street of the city of Sidon and injured the driver. Afterwards the Israeli military carried out mass searches and arrests among the city's inhabitants. Resisting the aggressor, Lebanese patriots ambushed an Israeli convoy on the southern outskirts of Sidon. Several Israelis were injured as a result of the exchange of fire.

A sentry post came under fire in Beirut, not far from the headquarters of the French troops belonging to the "multinational forces." According to Beirut radio, a French serviceman was killed and two injured.

The situation in the country was discussed at a 1-day Riyadh conference of foreign ministers from Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia. The participants examined in particular plans to ensure the security of Lebanon's capital and other parts of the country. The ministers from the three Arab states stressed that the continuing Israeli aggression and occupation of a significant part of that country's territory are the main obstacle to the normalization of the situation in Lebanon. The Syrian and Lebanese people, Syrian Foreign Minister A.H. Khaddam declared, reject the enslaving agreement imposed on Lebanon by Israel.

WASHINGTON TIES WITH PRETORIA CASTIGATED

PM101211 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jan 84 Second Edition p 3

[I. Tarutin article: "The Racists' Patrons Across the Ocean"]

[Excerpt] The United States plays a particularly sinister role in the development of the racists' nuclear industry. South African nuclear physicists have been trained in American laboratories. The United States has provided Pretoria with two nuclear reactors -- Safari-1 and Safari-2 -- and supplies them with enriched uranium. True, when it became quite clear that South African research was aimed at creating nuclear weapons, under pressure from public opinion the United States curtailed cooperation in this sphere. But the Reagan administration discarded the previous restrictions even here. The U.S. Department of Commerce approved the sale to South Africa of an ultramodern Cyber-750 computer which Pretoria, the Western press reported, intends to use for computing its secret nuclear research program, as well as the delivery to South Africa of a consignment of helium which is used in nuclear tests.

Washington continues to pump the militarist muscles of the apartheid regime. The point is that South Africa is assigned an important role in NATO's plans in view of its strategic location at the southern tip of the continent close to the routes for transporting oil from the Persian Gulf. In the Pentagon's eyes, such a bridgehead, complete with all the necessary infrastructure, is of colossal value. The more so because Pretoria is entirely "understanding" about the North Atlantic bloc's needs. The racists have already offered the West the opportunity to make open use of their naval base in Simonstown together with the electronic communications center at Silvermine. France's LE MONDE described these facilities as "technically the most up-to-date and sophisticated in the whole of the Southern Hemisphere." It is obvious why the high-ranking NATO figure Admiral H. Train hastened to state that "it would be desirable to incorporate Simonstown in our defensive system."

Moreover the Washington strategists believe that a well-armed, numerically strong South African Army is capable of independently resolving certain combat tasks. R. Caplinger, U.S. naval attache in Pretoria, spoke out publicly on this score in an interview for the Johannesburg newspaper RAND DAILY MAIL. He stated: "Realizing that the South African Navy could play a decisive role in any military conflict in future, the Reagan administration seeks to maintain ties between the two navies."

Evidently in order to facilitate such ties, the White House lifted the ban imposed under President Carter on visits by South African military men to the United States. Since then, American generals have received many South African colleagues. The United States has virtually entered into partnership with the apartheid regime, implementing a joint strategy in southern Africa.

Aware of Washington's support behind it, Pretoria acts increasingly provocatively. "There is a direct connection between South Africa's aggressive policy in the region, on the one hand, and American diplomacy on the other," H. Wolpe, chairman of the U.S. congressional subcommittee on Africa. Indeed, with the start of the American policy of "constructive rapprochement," South Africa's aggressiveness increased notably. The terror in Namibia, which is occupied by South African troops, was stepped up. The racists blocked talks on granting it independence, putting forward the idea suggested by the Americans of "linkage" between the Namibia problem and the presence of a contingent of Cuban troops in Angola.

Angola itself is the target for constant armed sorties by South Africa. Part of its territory is occupied by the racists.

Now the South African military has made a new attack on Angola. The interventionists invaded Angolan territory to a great depth, destroying industrial sites, cities, and villages in their path and wiping out the peaceful population. It is a question of a large-scale operation with the participation of major formations of ground forces and aviation, which thoroughly exposes Pretoria's lying claims that it is only making a limited punitive raid against SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] guerrillas. The Angolan president asked the Security Council to hold an emergency session to discuss the question of the aggression against Angola. In its resolution the Security Council demanded the speedy withdrawal of the South African interventionists' troops from all Angolan territory, assessing their actions as a flagrant violation of international norms. Incidentally, the United States abstained from voting, once again showing its solidarity with South Africa.

This patronage whips up the racists' aggression. There are unceasing provocations by Pretoria against Lesotho, Zambia, and Botswana. Mozambique has more than once been the victim of brigandage.

In parallel with frontal attacks, the racists are launching increasingly widely the secret war against neighboring African states, making use of puppet counterrevolutionary groupings. Zimbabwe's leaders have stated repeatedly that South Africa is preparing a "fifth column" in their country. On Pretoria's orders, the "national resistance movement" in Mozambique and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] in Angola, which are on its payroll, have sharply stepped up their activity. Here the U.S. CIA, whose links with UNITA are well known, acts hand in glove with the South African special services. It is characteristic that W. Casey, director of this No. 1 espionage department, even made a personal visit to South Africa during which he discussed questions of close cooperation between the two countries' special services. This collaboration is another link in American imperialism's subversive activity against independent Africa.

U.S. ruling circles make use of the apartheid regime as a strike force in the struggle against the region's progressive forces. That is why Pretoria enjoys all-around support and patronage from Washington, which therefore fully shares the responsibility for all the racists' crimes.

SOUTH AFRICA INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA CONDEMNED

LD101616 Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Luanda January 10 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Semenov reports:

South African racists, who treacherously invaded the People's Republic of Angola, are acting at one with the Washington administration. The latter has arrogated itself the "right" to interfere in the affairs of other peoples and declare various regions of the world to be a "zone of their vital interests." A statement to this effect was made in a TASS interview by D. Coelho da Cruz, chairman of the Angolan League for Friendship and Solidarity With the Peoples of Foreign Countries.

The apartheid regime, he said, would not dare to act so impudently had it not been for the direct aid and support from the USA. The current incursion launched by the Pretoria racists into Angola creates a serious threat to peace in southern Africa. It takes joint actions by all progressive forces of the world to curb the aggressor, he stressed.

Ottawa January 10 TASS -- The Republic of South Africa must immediately withdraw its troops from Angola's southern areas and from Namibia in the interests of strengthening peace and security in southern Africa, Canadian Foreign Minister Allan Joseph Maceachen said here.

He condemned the invasion of Angola's territory by the Pretoria troops and stressed that respect for international borders and sovereignty of states is an indispensable condition for ensuring lasting peace in the region.

Bissau January 10 TASS -- The apartheid regime bears all responsibility for the aggravation of tensions in the south of the African Continent, said Joao Bernardo Vieira, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. The international community, says his message to the U.N. secretary general, shall give effective aid to the Government of People's Angola.

ANGOLA DEFENSE MINISTER HITS PRETORIA 'INCURSION'

PM111119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Pedro Maria Tonha, member of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola Central Committee Politburo and Angolan defense minister, given to IZVESTIYA Luanda correspondent S. Nikonov and published under the rubric "IZVESTIYA'S Interview": "Confidence in Victory" -- date not given]

[Text] Luanda -- South Africa's aggression continues in the south of the People's Republic of Angola. Fierce battles against detachments from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] are being fought in the country's central regions. Nonetheless, Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, member of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense, who has been assigned the task of expelling the interventionists and organizing the crushing of the counterrevolutionary gangs, managed to spare some time and meet with IZVESTIYA's correspondent.

[Tonha] Regions deep inside the country have become the arena of combat operation. The interventionists are using various types of weapons from NATO countries and primarily from the United States, as well as weapons manufactured by South African military plants under license from Western firms. Poisonous chemicals were used against our soldiers in the latest battles.

As regards the UNITA gangs, which are maintained by the imperialists and the South African racists, this group also receives the latest weapons and other assistance from them. Nonetheless, subunits of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola are conducting successful operations against the traitors of the Angolan people. Our soldiers are manifesting high combat training, staunchness, and heroism. The enemy would have already been crushed had it not been for South Africa's direct armed interference.

The racists have yet again demonstrated before the whole world the hypocrisy and falsity of their policy: The South African incursion began after Pretoria's recent proposal on a supposedly "peaceful solution to southern Africa's problems." The Angolan Government does not reject the possibility of peace talks, but peace talks which would not damage our sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Question: And how do you assess the activity of the so-called "Contact Group," bearing in mind South Africa's growing aggressiveness?

Answer: The entire point is that this group consists of representatives from the very capitalist countries which are vitally interested in exploiting southern Africa's natural assets and have considerable economic interests there. This is why these countries are doing everything to save the racist regime and hinder the liberation of Namibia. We no longer trust the "Contact Group," which is misleading international public opinion. In our opinion, the only medium has been and remains the United Nations, which must, at long last, force the apartheid regime to give up the illegal occupation of Namibia and respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola and other neighboring African countries.

Question: Could you quantify the total value of material damage inflicted on Angola through South Africa's aggressive actions?

Answer: Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos announced last November that this damage exceeds $10 billion. Now, however, we must add to this huge sum the cost of numerous projects destroyed by the enemy just over the last month in Caiundo, Cahama, and Cuvelai. It can be generally said that South Africa's debt to the Angolan people is growing day by day. I have no doubt that in the end we will settle accounts with the racists in respect of the damage they have caused.

HABRE SEEN OPPOSING CHAD SETTLEMENT TALKS

PM111342 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS reports under general heading: "Torpedoing the Talks"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 10 Jan -- The Ndjamena regime is attempting, with U.S., and French complicity, to prevent the holding of talks on the peaceful solution of the Chad problem planned to begin here under the OAU's auspices. As an OAU spokesman announced here, the meeting could not start at the planned time.

Encouraged by his Western patrons, Ndjamena regime head Hissein Habre refused to come to Addis Ababa despite a pledge given earlier. Washington and Paris are urging him to wreck the efforts being made by the OAU to settle the Chad conflict on the basis of national reconciliation. Their aim is to maintain the tense situation in that country and step up their military presence there, turning Chad into a permanent bridgehead for aggression against Africa's independent states and liberation movements.

Tripoli 10 Jan -- The Ndjamena regime launched a widespread campaign to discredit the idea of talks on a peaceful settlement in Chad immediately following the meeting in the Chadian capital between H. Habre and French National Defense Minister C. Hernu, according to a radio broadcast by the Transitional Government of National Unity of Chad from Bardai.

As C. Hernu unambiguously declared on his return from Paris, France "will not hurry to withdraw its troops from Chad." The former mother country is clearly not interested in a just solution to the Chad conflict, Bardai Radio pointed out.

Libya's JANA news agency reported the sudden death "under mysterious circumstances" of I. Miskine, foreign minister of the Ndjamena regime. It is well known that "considerable difference of opinion" existed between him and Habre, JANA notes.

Paris, 10 Jan -- LE MONDE concludes that Habre is totally against any agreement on the withdrawal of French troops from Chad. The newspapers calls on the French Government to make effective efforts to settle the continuing conflict in that African country.

GUINEA CABLES THANKS TO USSR FOR CONDOLENCES

PM101415 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Expressing Thanks"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has received a telegram from People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea President A. Sekou Toure conveying profound thanks for the condolences expressed in connection with the recent earthquake in the country.

DEMICHEV HAILS USSR-CUBA TIES IN HAVANA SPEECH

FL082025 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1620 GMT 8 Jan 84

[Speech by Petr N. Demichev, USSR minister of culture and candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, at unveiling of a Lenin status in Lenin Park, Havana -- live; first two paragraphs are consecutively translated and then translator reads remainder of speech in Spanish]

[Text] Dear Comrades Fidel Castro, Armando Hart, Cuban friends, comrades: The unveiling of the monument to Vladimir Ilich Lenin coincides with the 25th anniversary of the Cuban revolution which opened the door to real freedom for the people and the fulfillment of deep social progress and transformations.

Dear Cuban friends, at this event I have the task transmitting to you the warmest congratulations and wishes for new successes in the further building of socialism in the name of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government. Yuriy Vladimirovich, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, has asked me to transmit his personal congratulations and best wishes. [applause]

This wonderful monument clearly embodies the true international significance of Leninism. It is a symbol of proletarian internationalism, of the historical revolutionary advances of the Cuban people in building the new society, and it is a symbol of the indestructible friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Today Lenin's ideas illuminate, for all peoples, the path in the fight for freedom and social progress. As Comrade Andropov has said, the ideas and works of the huge figure of Lenin, a revolutionary and a thinker, have meant a decisive turn in the destinies of humanity. Lenin's ideas have reflected the essence of the modern era -- the great battles between the classes, the revolutionary battles of the era of decadence and crisis of capitalism. This is the era for smoothing out the most humane society in history, the socialist society.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the great follower of Marx's and Lenin's cause, has defined the paths which permit the people's realization of the great ideals of social equality and international fraternity. The influence of Lenin's ideas has changed and continues to change the entire contemporary world.

Lenin understood the true meaning of the workers' freedom with respect to capitalism's oppression. The attainment of Marxist-Leninist ideas today faces the particularly fer ferocious and bloodthirsty opposition of the reactionary forces.

Gunboat diplomacy, open armed intervention, the tiger cages, bloody dungeons of the puppet regims like those of Pinochet, the subversive actions of the CIA, and the provocations in the campaign of lies and slander are the methods used today in imperialism to crush the peoples' freedom. With their policies, the reactionary forces today endanger the very existance of humanity.

President Reagan has declared that the Soviet Union and other socialist nations form an evil empire. Despite his policy of disregarding all moral principles and practicing international terrorism, he has hypocritically begun to speak of freedom and human rights. And, in practice, he has openly gone beyond all norms of international law. Examples of this are bandit-like aggression against Grenada, the aggressive provocations against the Nicaraguan revolution, and the armed intervention in Lebanon.

Threats and slanders are not only made against socialist Cuba; the usual signs of imperialism can be found everywhere. Its criminal policies, its contempt for all norms and principles of normal relations between peoples are elevated to the level of virtues.

While depriving the people of the freedoms for which they fought, it proclaims that it is reestablishing democracy.

Despite the most widespread protests from the masses, they are deploying new nuclear missiles -- first-strike weapons -- in Europe. The imperialist allies within the NATO bloc, especially the Governments of the FRG, the United Kingdom, and Italy, disregard the will of workers and the national interests of their countries and obediently follow an ill-fated path on the way to becoming nuclear hostages of the United States.

Reagan's policy is leading to a dangerous deterioration of the situation in the entire world.

In Asia, they are creating the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul military triangle. They are reinforcing the so-called strategic cooperation with the Israeli aggressor in the Middle East. They are creating military bases in Africa as well as on the coasts of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

You know, dear friends, that the Soviet Union is using all its international influence and all its activity to consolidate peace in the world. As Yuriy Andropov has said: We oppose, out of principle, competition in the production and accumulation of weapons for the destruction of the masses. It is not our path. However, we do not want to build up our hopes. We know that we cannot achieve peace by begging the imperialists for it. This is why the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries are forced to take responsive measures to prevent the military superiority of the NATO bloc vis-a-vis the Warsaw Pact countries, thereby preventing the aggressor from unleashing a nuclear war.

The continuous and determined struggle of the Leninist party and the Soviet Government to consolidate peace is a direct result of the nature of socialism itself.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin always linked the struggle for peace with the people's massive opposition to imperialist wars.

Dear Cuban friends: The Soviets express their warm recognition for your firm and active support for the statement that Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, made on the occasion of the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. The forces of peace can win the historical battle against the forces of imperialist aggression and stop the political adventurers who intend to carelessly toy with the people's destiny.

The communists are advancing at the vanguard of those who are fighting for the most sacred human right: the right to live. They are defending this right in an intransigent struggle against the instigators of a new world war.

Our struggle is complex and difficult. It calls for a great deal of firmness, courage and revolutionary valor. Lenin's entire life is an example of revolutionary integrity.

As Comrade Fidel Castro rightfully stressed in his speech on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Lenin's birth, it must be said that Lenin was not only one of the most creative, striving, and brilliant men but one of the bravest men -- morally brave.

He had a courage that was proven in very difficult tests and decisions throughout his life and throughout the revolutionary process. Lenin's greatness is based on his contention that the working class and masses needed to have an organization, a political and ideological vanguard forged in class struggles. This organization is capable of leading the people through every obstacle and difficulty to achieve the final objectives of the great liberating struggle. The unity of the party and people is the unsurmountable obstacle confronting the most sinister intentions of the reactionary forces. This is what happened during the civil war in Russian when the workers, peasants, soldiers, and sailors -- often poorly dressed, hungry, and barely armed -- defeated, after all, the mercentaries of imperialism, the White Guards, and the interventionists who were armed to their teeths. This is also what happened during World War II when the Soviet Army carried the main burden of the struggle to defeat the fascist armies, defended the independence of its country, and gave freedom and independence to many nations. The same has happened in the postwar period when the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Leninist party, did everything needed to restore the country's economy and built an unsurmountable barrier in the face of U.S. imperialist aspirations to control the world.

Now, when Washington has proclaimed the new crusade against socialism, as a social system, and against the peoples who have begun their march toward freedom and progress, we are convinced that this unity is the powerful force that will destroy this crusade.

The Reagan administration's policies include the worst and most abominable manifestations of the imperialist reactionary forces; support for sordid prejudices, intensification of chauvinist hysteria, rabid anticommunism, casuistic cruelty, and insolent, hypocrisy.

Reagan is trying to speak with the free peoples with the language of blockade, the iron fist, and nuclear blackmail. In response to this, the people's struggle against the efforts of the biggest imperialist power in the world, the United States, and its puppets, to change the course of history, impose their arrogance, and change the order of things to colonial times, has become stronger throughout the world. Nobody can now force the peoples to return to the times of quiet submission and diffidence. Nobody has the right to resort to force and impose Reagan's new order on the free nations. The free nations can defend themselves. The sacred cause of the people's freedom is invincible.

Dear comrades: The great Lenin is still alive in every phase of the vigorous construction of socialism and communism. The giant stature of Lenin is embodied in a real monument created by history itself. The history of communist society is created by the workers, the humble peoples who capitalism exploited mercilessly, implacably casting them out of society in an effort to humiliate them spiritually and pervert them morally.

The workers, belittled and enslaved in the past, have risen in the present and realized the great creative forces and possibilities they have. They have learned of the ability they have to build a new society in line with their essential interests, thus putting an end to social parasitism as well as to social and national oppression in all its manifestations.

Workers are the authentic heroes of our times. They find a guarantee for their final victory in the great Leninist ideas. The gigantic historical force of free work has become evident in the economic, social, and cultural improvement in the country of the soviets. In 1982, the USSR solemnly commemorated the 60th anniversary of its founding These have been decades of strong economic and social progress in the country. We just have to mention that the gross national product was 15 times greater, compared to levels prior to the war. Industrial production level was 23 times higher. Production of consumer goods was more than 11 times higher. Per-capita imcome was 6 times higher.

The USSR now is a country with a high student attendance record, great culture, and a true socialist democracy. All the nations which have taken the path of socialism and are consistently advancing on Lenin's path have made great achievements in a short time.

A living example of this is Cuba's historical achievements. Cuba's transformation into the first socialist country in the Western Hemisphere is convincing proof that the Marxist-Leninist doctrine is historically true. The Cuban people are truly proud of their remarkable accomplishments in the economy, culture, development of schools and health, and the formation of the new man -- a patriot and an internationalist. The courageous decision of the Cubans to defend the achievements of socialism, despite the provocations of imperialist reactionary forces, is the real incarnations of imperialist reactionary forces, is the real incarnation of Lenin's theory that every revolution is worth something only when it knows how to defend itself.

The truth and essence of the revolutionary nature of Lenin's ideas have been confirmed throughout the experiences of the 20th century. Lenin's ideas also light up the path toward the future. Guided by them, our party adjusted its strategic course and, in line with them, drafts its plans. The accomplishments of socialism do not just happen. They are a result of hard work, the people's initiative and effort, and conscientious discipline and organization.

Our Leninist party attributes a key meaning to the correct ideological formation of man, the profound analysis of the laws which guide the development of the new society, and the search for practical solutions to all aspects of vital issues.

Lenin taught us this and we remain firm to his legacy. The main objective is to perfect all aspects of developed socialism. The achievement of this goal determines the advance of the Soviet society on the path of communism.

The 26th CPSU Congress held in November 1982 and the [words indistinct] June and December 1983 give new perspectives to the socioeconomic, political, and [word indistinct] of the Soviet society in the present conditions.

An examination of the past year, 1983, obviously shows that we are following the right path. We have taken an important step forward in social and economic development. The volume of industrial products has grown by 4 percent. Progress has been made in the uninterrupted operation of all the economic mechanisms in the most rational use and the country's productive, scientific, and technical potential, and in combining the advantages of socialism with the successes of the scientific-technical revolution.

We've made remarkable progress in the agricultural economy. The total volume of the agricultural national product increased by 3.6 percent. We are carrying out the USSR Food Program and improving the economic mechanism of agricultural production. The salaries of workers and employees as well as those of kolkhoz workers have gone up.

The CPSU Central Committee December 1983 Plenum has guided the party and the Soviet people to the solution of key problems in the country's economic and social development, to the continuous increase of our productivity in the economy, to the increase in the level of administrative-economic work, and to the active improvement of the planning and management system.

The solution of these problems is the objective of the USSR Government plan for 1984, approved in the December Plenum and adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Soviet people will do everything possible to make this plan a successful reality.

Preparations for regular elections for the Supreme Soviet -- the top organization of power in the state -- are underway throughout the country. We are sure that these elections will offer new and convincing proof of the authentic democracy that we have in our country. They will aslo be a true manifestation of the monolithic unity of all the Soviet people in support of the party of the great Lenin and proof of the Soviets' loyalty to communist ideas.

Dear friends, Lenin was a consistent internationalist. He disclosed the need for the workers' international solidarity in the struggle against capitalist oppression under imperialism. He also defined the essence of internationalism in the process of formation of the socialist state, and the construction of the new society.

He called for the need to reinforce the alliance between nations and peoples based on equality, trust, and sincerity. Lenin's ideas are the basis for the fraternal union of the Soviet people. Lenin's ideas have laid out the path for the emergence of the socialist community.

In today's situation, the importance of consolidating cooperation and cohesion among socialist nations has increase more than ever. The reinforcement of this cooperation is the key priority of the international activities of the CPSU and the Soviet Union.

At present, the need need has grown for efforts to perfect the political interaction among socialist nations, taking into account the present international situation, the characterisitics of the situation, and the specific interests of the various nations.

Real grounds have arisen for the transfer to a qualitative new level of economic integration called forth to strengthen the national economies and, at the same time, to serve the common interests of the socialist community.

The CPSU fights with a consistent spirit for the friendship of all socialist nations. We speak in all seriousness of the authentic fraternal friendship that unites the Soviet people with the heroic Cuban people.

These feelings aquired their firm social and ideological basis when the Cuban peoples started on the road of revolutionary liberation, when the Cuban and Soviet peoples started resolving, shoulder to shoulder, the very difficult social, economic, and cultural problems. In finding solutions to these problems, the legitimate destinies of peoples are linked and the words friendship and companionship acquire a real social meaning.

To strengthen and maintain this friendship has become a sacred matter for us, a matter for all of the people. Socialist Cuba can count on the unwavering solidarity of the Soviet people. The USSR firmly opposes the provocations, pressures, and threats directed against Cuba. Those who advocate aggressive plans against Cuba should remember that these plans are full of harsh consequences for them. They should specificially remember Vietnam and the Bay of Pigs. [applause]

Comrade Fidel Castro recently said in Santiago de Cuba: If at the beginning, when we did not have anything but ideas to fight for, our people at the Bay of Pigs, and during the October crisis did not waste an instant and took up arms in their determination to fight to the final consequences, what would happen today when, in addition to dignity, sovereignty, libery, national independence, and the right to make the revolution, we have the finished work of the revolution and a beautiful future to defend. [applause]

Today nobody can take away from the Cuban people their great revolutionary conquests. The Soviet Union and Cuba have reached the highest level of understanding and cohesion.

Our fraternal relations are today firmer than ever before. The Soviets are sincerely happy about the great successes which the Cuban people have attained in 25 years under the direction of their revolutionary vanguard, the Communist Party of Cuba, headed by Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, eminent leader and loyal Marxist-Leninist. [applause]

Dear friends, the great ideas of Vladimir Iich Lenin have shown the way to peace and social progress for all the peoples. These ideas belong to future history. The grand and noble cause of Vladimir Iich Lenin will live through the centuries. [crowd shouts: Viva!]

Long live Marxism-Leninism, guiding light of the workers of the whole world in their fight liberty! [crowd shouts: Viva!]

May the great friendship between the people of the Soviet Union and the Cubans become ever strong! [crowd shouts: Viva!]

Long live peace and socialism! [crowd shouts: Viva!; prolonged applause]

GROMYKO, CUBAN AMBASSADOR SOTO HIT U.S. POLICY

PM111410 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Reception of Cuban Ambassador"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, received Lionel Soto, Cuban ambassador to the Soviet Union, in the Kremlin on 9 January.

A conversation took place between A.A. Gromyko and L. Soto which was held in the spirit of fraternal friendship characteristic of relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

It was noted with satisfaction that all-round Soviet-Cuban cooperation based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism is growing deeper and becoming more effective every year. The ceremonial unveiling in Havana of the first monument to V.I. Lenin in the Western hemisphere during the celebration of the Cuban revolution's 25th anniversary was a vivid manifestation of the steadily strengthening friendship and unity of the Soviet and Cuban peoples.

In discussing international problems, particular attention was devoted to the dangerous aggravation of the situation as a result of attempts by the U.S. ruling circles to achieve a dominant position in the world and the increased aggressiveness of Washington's policy in various regions of the globe.

In this connection L. Soto emphasized that the Cuban Government and people fully supported Yu. V. Andropov's 24 November 1983 statement, which gives a comprehensive assessment of the position and contains a constructive and realistic program for the struggle to preserve peace.

Examining the situation in Latin America, the talk participants resolutely condemned the U.S. invasion of Grenada and the occupiers' excesses in that country, the undeclared war that Washington is waging against Nicaragua, and American imperialism's intrigues with regard to Cuba. It was also emphasized that the problems of Central America and the Caribbean can only be resolved by means of a just political settlement which is acceptable to the region's countries.

A.A. Gromyko stated that the Soviet Union will continue to provide assistance and aid to Cuba in developing its economy, science, and culture, and in its struggle to protect its sovereignty.

PRESS REPORTS MORE SUPREME SOVIET SPEECHES

Railway Minister Konarev

PM111252 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 Dec 83 p 3

[Speech delivered by Deputy N.S. Konarev, USSR minister of railways, of Gurdzhaani Electoral Okrug, Georgian SSR, at the 28 December afternoon session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union]

[Text] Comrade deputies! Railroad transportation workers see the 1984 State Plan as the chief party and government assignment which must be unconditionally fulfilled to a high standard and for all indicators.

In order to solve this task we will be required to concentrate our efforts still more on improving the style and methods of work, on strengthening plan and technological discipline, on accelerating the introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, and on further restructuring the sector's work as now required by the CPSU Central Committee and as recommended by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the current stage of socialist building and in the present complex international situation we are obliged to step up labor discipline, organization, and responsibility in order to make our country's economy still stronger and absolutely invulnerable. Guided by these considerations many railroad collectives put forward counterproposals in the process of discussing the draft plan. Taking their wishes into account, on the eve of the USSR Supreme Soviet session the Ministry of Railways submitted a request to the Council of Ministers that the preliminary outlines for our freight turnover be increased by 20 billion metric ton-kilometers and balance-sheet profits by R100 million. These proposals were adopted and have already been incorporated in the draft plan indicators.

At the same time, many transportation enterprise collectives in adopting their socialist pledges for 1984 are setting themselves even higher targets.

Thus, the Moscow railroad collective, in response to Yu.V. Andropov's appeal in his speech at the Central Committee December Plenum and guided by the decisions of the Central Committee plenum, pledged to exceed the previously stipulated labor productivity targets by 1 percent and to reduce the prime cost of shipments by 0.5 percent.

On the whole, the working people of the sector intend to work in the coming year in such a way as to overfulfill plan targets and thereby create the conditions for the complete fulfillment of the 11th 5-Year Plan. They see this not only as their responsibility to the state, but also as their patriotic duty.

It stands to reason that the fulfillment of the 1984 plan indicators will not be an easy matter. Further mobilization of available forces and capacities, the bringing of new production reserves into play, and an increase in work precision and coordination will be required. And in all this the approach must be as specific and comprehensive as possible.

We have such a plan of action for 1984. It includes the implementation of a whole series of wide-ranging programs for intensifying basic production processes, which, incidently, performed quite will in 1983.

In this connection special attention will be devoted to further accelerating the flow of railroad cars, to improving the work of junctions and stations, to significantly increasing train weight, to improving the maintenance and use of locomotives and cars, and to establishing a more precise train traffic schedule.

Furthermore, the reorganization of the sector's management system embracing all its elements will be continued. Pride of place is given to the introduction of an improved system for managing the freight shipment process, central to which will be the principle of management by regions and network routes.

The main aim of all this work is to bring management organs closer to production, create scope for initiative and efficiency, and to eradicate time lost on so-called "examinations" and "discussions" when it is necessary to act and make decisions.

The accelerated introduction of progressive experience and of highly efficient technological models and the practical use of the achievements of scientific and technical progress will be the decisive basis of our measures. In 1984 the systematic use of superheavy trains weighing 10,000-15,000 metric tons will come about, and high-speed and long passenger trains and new automated systems, including ones based on microprocessors, will come into operation. New capacities will be commissioned and will provide major increases.

In the final analysis all this will make it possible to fulfill the volume, quality, and economic indicators set for the year.

At the same time, this does not mean that we will succeed in eliminating all the shortcomings occurring in our work. There are, unfortunately, many of these. Just consider irrational shipments, which were mentioned in the text of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech at the CPSU Central Committee December Plenum. Tens of thousands of cars are diverted into this work daily. Most irrational shipments are the result of shortcomings in the siting of production facilities, and of narrow departmentalism and a lack of comprehensiveness in the solution of questions. There are also other reasons that attest to downright mismanagement.

We have not entirely solved the problem of 100-percent fulfillment of the loading plan for the whole range [po vsey nomenklature] of freight. The ministry leadership is especially concerned about shortcomings linked with passenger management at stations and on trains, and with guaranteeing the safekeeping of freight in transit. There are other oversights too. We appreciate our responsibility for this and will be taking the necessary measures to eradicate these shortcomings.

At the same time, I would also like to say that railroad transport needs considerable assistance both at the center and locally. A great deal of effort must be pooled to successfully resolve the problems which have accumulated in transportation. This is perfectly evident. I will cite just one example. A few days ago in Leningrad we, together with the obkom, were looking into questions linked with improving transport services for Leningrad and the surrounding oblasts. The line had become a "bottleneck" in transport work. Consequently apatite, timber and paper, pellets, and other freight are not always shipped out in full. The Ministry of Railways and the Leningrad CPSU Obkom made a joint decision on how to eliminate this "bottleneck," but without additional capital investment allocated by the Gosplan, there will be no success in solving these questions.

Similar problems are occurring on lines in the Ukraine, the Baltic republics, and Belorussia. Transportation capacities in the Volga area are still inadequate and the link between the center and west of the country with the east and with Central Asia needs to be strengthened.

Clearly, nobody can deny the need to solve these questions, and we are hoping that they will get a special examination.

And if you add to this the fact that transportation is failing to receive large numbers of new cars, locomotives, rails, ties, and loading, unloading, and repair equipment, it becomes dazzlingly clear that some of these questions must be resolved right away in 1984.

We are asking the Gosplan and its affiliated sections to find such an opportunity to stipulate an increase in capital investment in rail transport in 1984-85 and in the 12th 5-Year Plan. In doing so, of course, one must not lose sight of the resolution of social and consumer questions. As Comrade Deputy Cherskiy noted in his speech at the plenary session of the Planning and Budget Commission, many thousands of railroad workers' families need an improvement in their housing conditions.

Comrade deputies! It is necessary, however, to speak not just about this. The Gosplan, as they say, has a lot on its plate. The possibility exists of significantly rectifying matters in transportation services for the national economy by means of a more zealous attitude toward the use of transportation facilities. Despite a certain improvement in the use of rolling stock in 1983, the losses which have occurred through the fault of freight recipients are very great. Every day 15,000-16,000 cars remain in stations and on spur lines without having been unloaded, and something like 12,000 cars stand idle waiting to be unloaded. If these losses could be reduced by just 50 percent we could load an additional 300,000-400,000 metric tons of freight every day.

This is precisely the transportation reserve that could very quickly produce a large savings without substantial capital investment and which Comrade Yu. V. Andropov noted most persuasively in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee December Plenum.

The other such reserve is to increase the rate of loading and unloading cars on days off and holidays when the volume of these operations declines by 8-10 percent. In a 24-hour period this accounts for the nonloading of 250-300,000 metric tons. One must add to this the losses due to the low level of freight operations at night.

And there is one further question, which in my view, disturbs each deputy, and consequently each Soviet citizen: I am talking about stations. The station is a public center. The interests and functions of many local territorial organizations intersect here. However, it has somehow come about that, say, station modernization or the construction of a new station remains in many cases the concern of the railroad workers alone. But we are allocated very meager funds for this.

In our view the solution of the problem of the modernization and construction of stations should be approached comprehensively to allow funds for their development to be allocated by republic, oblast, and city organizations. It seems to us that this would promote a considerable acceleration of the solution of an important question.

Comrade deputies! The year 1983 is ending -- the first year of our work since the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum, which elevated our society's life to a new and creative level. In rail transportation, thanks to the tireless concern of the party and the government for railroad workers, and thanks to their selfless labor, this year has passed with a certain improvement in work.

The annual plan for freight shipments was fulfilled ahead of schedule. It was fulfilled by all 32 lines. Before the end of the year 65 million metric tons of diverse freight will have been dispatched over and above the plan. Compared with 1982, the dispatch of freight has increased by 125 million metric tons, and labor productivity will have increased 3.9 percent and freight turnover 4.0 percent. The profit earned in excess of the plan amounts to R440-450 million.

We realize that we must not rest on our laurels: We must go still further. The party and the government are setting the task of not only consolidating the positive trends in the work of the railroads, but developing them still further in order to stop them holding up the development of the country's entire national economy. We consider solving this task to be a matter of honor. Railroad workers have always been in the front ranks of the party's fighters in solving the tasks the party sets. That will also be the case now. We fully approve of the domestic and foreign policy pursued by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Allow me to assure the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers that railroad transportation workers will do everything necessary to fulfill the 1984 shipments plan. (applause)

Uzbek Premier

PM081727 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 3

["Abridged" version of speech delivered by Uzbek Council of Ministers Chairman N.D. Khudayberdyyev, deputy of the Izbaskanskiy Electoral Okrug, Andizhan Oblast, at the 28 December afternoon session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! Our party Central Committee's December plenum, which comprehensively examined and in the main approved the draft State Plan for Economic and Social Development and the draft USSR State Budget for 1984, was an important political event in the Soviet people's life.

The participants in the CPSU Central Committee plenum and all Soviet people welcomed with tremendous satisfaction and unanimous approval the plenum speech of Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which was in accord with Leninist principles and imbued with party effectiveness and exactingness.

Comrades! Soviet Uzbekistan, fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums and relying on the increasing help and support of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Government, and all the fraternal union republics, is successfully completing 1983 and the 3d year of the current 5-year plan as a whole.

The overall volume of industrial production will have increased 5 percent during the year, although the plan target was only 4 percent. As for consumer goods, output has considerably increased and quality has improved.

The tasks set by the Food Program are being actively resolved. The 1983 plans for grain purchases, mainly consisting of wheat and rice, and also of potatoes, vegetables, cucurbits, fruits, and grapes have been overfulfilled. Some 1,125,000 metric tons of fruits and vegetables have been delivered to the all-union fund, which is much higher than the target.

Comrades! It is known that, taking account of the all-union division of labor, Uzbekistan is making a great contribution to ensuring the country's needs for very valuable industrial raw cotton. Recognizing their patriotic and international duty, the cotton growers under the leadership of the republic party organization are waging a persistent struggle to fulfill the pledge they have adopted -- to provide the motherland with 30 million metric tons of "white gold" in the 11th 5-Year Plan.

We are pleased today to report to the USSR Supreme Soviet session that, thanks to the heroic labor of Uzbekistan's farmer in the incredibly difficult weather conditions of this year, yet another confident step has been taken toward the achievements of this goal -- the cotton procurements plan for 1983 has been successfully fulfilled.

Uzbekistan is an area of highly efficient irrigated arable farming and has great reserves and potential at its disposal for the further development of cotton growing. However, there are several urgent development problems in this very important economic sector, which require comprehensive examination and resolution in union-level organs. These are questions of selection, cotton seed growing, the organization of an effective struggle against wilt, which causes tremendous damage to the harvest, comprehensive mechanization and chemical treatment, especially in connection with the introduction of the new all-union state standard, and others.

Considering the exceptional importance of the aforementioned problems for the national economy as a whole, the further boosting of domestic cotton growing, and the attainment by it of higher new targets, we would deem it expedient for them to be examined with the participation of the cotton-growing republics and the relevant ministries and departments at the USSR Gosplan and for expanded proposals to be prepared for submission to the directive organs.

Comrades! The year now starting is particularly important for us -- it is the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Uzbek SSR and the Uzbek Communist Party. The republic's working people fully aspire, by mounting socialist competition on a broad scale, to greet this glorious jubilee by successfully resolving the big responsible tasks which face us. (applause)

Kazakh Premier

PM111620 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 83 p 3

[Speech by Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers Chairman B.A. Ashimov, deputy of Karaganda-Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug, Kazakh SSR, at 28 December afternoon session of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! The CPSU Central Committee plenum held on the eve of the USSR Supreme Soviet session was a further convincing demonstration of the purposeful and thorough approach adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the solution of the exceedingly large-scale tasks involved in the country's social and economic development at the modern stage.

The steady enhancement of the motherland's economic and defense might and of science and culture, the growth of the people's well-being, and the further strengthening of the ideological and political unity of Soviet society are graphic testimony of the great vital force of the party's domestic and foreign policy and the 26th CPSU Congress decisions.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums and Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's basic guidelines on fundamental questions of enhancing economic efficiency are exerting a tremendous and ever increasing influence on the strengthening of discipline, organization, and order and the stepping up of national economic development rates.

At one of the most anxious and crucial moments in postwar history, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statement, which was graphic evidence of the USSR's constant advocacy of a principled Leninist foreign policy course, rang out with authority and weight.

The working people of multinational Kazakhstan join the rest of the Soviet people in warmly approving and wholly supporting the CPSU's general line inside the country and in the international arena.

Supreme Soviet deputies from the Kazakh SSR support the proposal submitted to adopt a special USSR Supreme Soviet resolution on full and unanimous approval of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statements and measures to ensure the security of the Soviet state and our allies, to remove the threat of war, and to preserve peace on earth.

Kazakhstan's people voice the firm determination to strengthen the country's defense capability by their harmonious labor and to successfully fulfill the plans of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

The republic's diversified industry enjoyed further development during the past period. Work continued on strengthening the mineral and raw material base of its leading sectors and on forming unique territorial production complexes. Some 230 large new production capacities were commissioned in power generation, nonferrous and ferrous metallurgy, machine building, the coal, chemical, and petrochemical industries, light industry, and the food industry. Persistent work is being done to develop the agro-industrial complex and fulfill the Food Program's targets. Measures to enhance the working people's well-being are consistently being realized, and there has been an increase in payments and benefits from public consumption funds, in the wages of workers and employees, and also in the earnings of kolkhoz members. Consumer goods production will exceed R10.5 billion. More than 16 million square meters of housing have been constructed since the beginning of the 5-year plan. A large number of public education, health care, and cultural projects have been commissioned in each of the 19 oblasts. Transportation and trade consumer, and municipal services for the population have developed at a high rate.

The fulfillment of targets for the main indicators of industrial production has been ensured this year, and a considerable quantity of diverse output has been sold above the plan. Labor productivity has increased, the utilization of production capacities has improved, and the number of laggard enterprises, as well as those which fail to fulfill their plans and pledges as regards deliveries, has fallen. Measures have been implemented to retool enterprises, introduce new equipment and technology, and extend the range and improve the quality of products, particularly consumer goods.

Despite the very complex weather conditions, rural working people displayed a high degree of organization and sold the state approximately 15 million metric tons of high-quality grain. Strong, durum, and valuable strains constituted more than 80 percent of the total amount of wheat procured. The targets for sales of rice and corn grain were overfulfilled. Sovkhozes and kolkhozes have provided themselves with seeds and prepared the ground for next year's crop. Growth in the social livestock population has been achieved, purchases of livestock products have increased, and the plans for deliveries of meat, milk, and eggs into the all-union fund have been fulfilled. Considerably more feed has been procured than last year -- which makes it possible to winter livestock in an organized manner. While developing social livestock raising, sovkhozes and kolkhozes are giving the rural population the necessary assistance in producing products on private subsidiary plots.

As a result of strengthening control over work on construction sites nearing completion and concentrating resources and means there, the volumes of capital investments assimilated and the pace of commissioning of fixed capital have increased.

Comrade deputies! The State Plan for Economic and Social Development and the State Budget for 1984, which have been submitted to the USSR Supreme Soviet for examination, will be an important stage in the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. They open up before the Kazakh SSR, as well as the other fraternal republics, broad prospects for the further dynamic development of the economy, science, and culture and resolve major social tasks.

Next year industrial output in Kazakhstan will increase by 14 percent as compared with 1980. The amount of power generated will reach 79 billion kwh, coal extraction and pig iron and steel production will increase, as will production of rolled metal, yellow phosphorus, mineral fertilizers, cement, tractors and agricultural machinery and consumer goods. In the agriculture sphere the main task for us remains that of further increasing grain production and livestock raising output.

The targets and plans are strenuous but realistic. Their fulfillment will demand a considerable improvement in management standards, the elimination of existing shortcomings, the fuller utilization of reserves, the achievement of above-plan growth in labor productivity, and a reduction in production prime costs.

The instructions contained in Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's program statement at the CPSU Central Commitee plenum on key questions of the country's economic development and the successful realization of the 5-year plan targets will be made the basis of all the work of the republic party organization, soviet and economic organs, and all labor collectives.

In the last 10 years fixed production capital in the republic's industry has more than doubled. In this connection we attach paramount significance to the efficient utilization of the established production, scientific, and technical potential and the improvement of technical and economic work indicators, especially as the draft plan for next year envisages obtaining the entire increase in industrial production amounting to R1 billion at existing enterprises.

Labor collectives are doing much purposeful work in this area. In conjunction with union-level organs a package of measures has been elaborated whose implementation will make it possible to start up a major production facility with a capacity of 445,000 metric tons of tinplate per year at the Karaganda Metallurgical Combine. The requisite steps are being taken to ensure the steady operation of the power units at the Ekibastuz GRES. At the same time, to ensure skilled technical servicing and the more reliable operation of the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification's power station the creation of a repair center there will have to be accelerated and, to ensure a settled staff, plans will have to provide for the construction of more housing and cultural and consumer facilities and faster commissioning of these. We are counting on more active assistance from the Ministry of the Chemical Industry in supplying the full amount of raw materials to the large plastics plant in Shevchenko City, which today is being utilized at less than half of its capacity.

In line with the party and government's demands, labor collectives are carrying out systematic work to intensify economy measures and reduce the proportionate expenditure of material resources. In these conditions the successful solution of social and economic tasks depends to a considerable extent on efficient supplies and balance between the plan and the provision of materials.

This is an old question, and the situation has improved somewhat lately as a result of the measures that have been taken. Nevertheless the funds allocated for timber and lumber and low-alloy types of ferrous metals are not being fully utilized and this is having a bad effect on the work of national economic sectors, especially capital construction. This very important sector demands more efficient work by the organizations responsible for the timely delivery of material and technical resources.

Comrade deputies! On behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet deputies from the Kazakh Republic I support the motion approving the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the country and the State Budget for 1984 incorporating the amendments and additions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers' commissions. There is no doubt that the decisions of the December Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and ninth session of the USSR Supreme Soviet will be a new political and labor boost for Soviet people and will be a powerful mobilizing factor in the struggle for the fulfillment of the plans of the 11th 5-year period.

Allow me to assure the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet Government that Kazakhstan's working people, closely rallied around their dear Leninist party, will work with still greater energy and persistence to implement the 26th CPSU Congress decisions and will make a worthy contribution to the building of communism in our country. (applause)

PRAVDA VIEWS DRAFT FOR EDUCATIONAL REFORM

PM101420 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Our Schools' Prospects"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee draft "Basic Guidelines for the Reform of General Educational and Vocational Schools" has been submitted for nationwide discussion. Soviet people are acquainting themselves with the draft with great attention. The questions of this reform affect the interests of every family and all the working people and are of fundamental significance for the further upsurge of the country's economic might and spiritual potential and the molding of the new man. It is essential that their discussion be conducted in close connection with the propaganda and elucidation of the tasks stemming from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the aims and conclusions contained in the text of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech with respect to the basic directions of further national economic development and the socioeconomic policy of our party and the Soviet state at the current stage and with the preparations for the upcoming 4 March elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The history of our schools is inseparable from the history of Soviet society and the people's heroic revolutionary and labor achievements. Soviet schools are truly people's schools and provide all citizens with the broadest opportunities for acquiring knowledge and cultural riches and displaying their varied talents. The creation and development of Soviet schools were a most important factor in firmly establishing socialist civilization and in the tremendous leap to the heights of modern science, technology, and culture which the land of the soviets has made. This represents a major contribution to the treasure store of world experience of socialist transformations, an inspiring example for states embarking on the path of building the new life, and a convincing demonstration of the historical advantages of socialism over capitalism.

The Communist Party's course of systematically and comprehensively improving developed socialism, revealing its humanist nature more fully, and further enhancing Soviet people's creative activeness sets great and responsible tasks for schools. In accordance with the program principles of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum, the work of schools must be raised to a qualitatively new level. They are called upon to raise, teach, and educate the young generations while taking the maximum advantage of the social conditions under which they will live and work. The ways to solve these tasks are profoundly and thoroughly revealed in the CPSU Central Committee draft.

The document published for nationwide discussion reflects all aspects of the multifaceted process of raising and educating the young generation. The draft also mentions the shortcomings and omissions which must be overcome in the course of the implementation of the reform, in particular formalism in the content and methods of teaching and educational work and in the assessment of pupils' knowledge. Pedagogical science must make a sharp turn toward elaborating schools' topical problems.

The CPSU Central Committee draft envisages an improved structure of education and an enhanced standard of general educational and labor and vocational training.

Special attention is being paid to instilling the need to work in the young generation. Correctly organized labor education and training, vocational guidance, and pupils' direct participation in socially useful labor -- All these are irreplaceable factors in developing an aware attitude to study, civic development, and the moral and intellectual formation and physical development of the individual.

Our schools have always had many patrons, friends, and helpers. It is proposed to consolidate these relations and give them a legal basis. Specific tasks are set for labor collectives, sector ministries and departments, trade union and Komsomol organizations, creative unions, and sports societies.

The role of vocational and technical schools within the system of people's education is being sharply increased. The various types of vocational and technical schools currently in existence are being reorganized into a single type of educational establishment -- "the secondary vocational and technical college," with appropriate departments for trades and lengths of study courses depending on the educational level of the intake. It is expected that the influx of young people into these colleges will increase considerably in the next few years.

The party document addresses moving words to the people's teachers. The many-million-strong detachment of Soviet teachers is our country's pride and the party's prop in the education of young people. The CPSU Central Committee draft is imbued with Leninist concern for enhancing teachers' role in our society's life, increasing their authority and prestige, and improving their working, leisure, and material conditions.

Traditionally, our party has always consulted with the people. The present school reform draft has been drawn up in light of proposals put forward by party organs, ministries and departments, scientific establishments, and teachers. Submitting the draft for nationwide discussion, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has instructed party committees at local level to head this work and to ensure that all proposals and remarks received from citizens and labor collectives are carefully considered. And wherever this document is discussed -- at a school or a scientific institution, a plant shop or a VUZ, a kolkhoz or a construction site -- it is important to ensure that collective thought helps to enrich the valuable ideas and proposals about how to better prepare our young people for labor and defense of the motherland.

A committed discussion of the draft educational reform has begun at the January teachers' conferences, in which representatives of the public at large are taking part, and at sessions of the scientific councils at teacher-training VUZes and research institutes. At these pedagogical councils many businesslike practical recommendations will certainly be expressed and these can and must be introduced in schools' work straightaway. Businesslike, concerned comments, proposals and remarks in connection with the discussion which has begun of the CPSU Central Committee draft are being received by the editorial offices of newspapers, television, and radio.

Understanding of the proposed school reform as a major measure on a statewide scale and an event of great sociopolitical significance is evident everywhere. The implementation of the reform will have a beneficial effect on the consolidation of the country's ideological and political, economic, and defense potential, Soviet society's comprehensive progress, and our advance toward communism.

TRADITION OF NATIONAL DISCUSSIONS VIEWED

LD091339 Moscow TASS in English 1257 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 9 TASS -- TASS commentator Boris Prokhorov writes: The nationwide discussion of an important document -- the CPSU Central Committee's draft guidelines for the reform of the general education and vocational training school -- has begun in the Soviet Union. The planned reform is not only of much importance to the state as a whole, it directly concerns every Soviet family. This is why the draft was submitted for discussion by all Soviet people.

Teachers' councils at many schools and colleges have already had meetings to discuss it. The draft has also been discussed by district and city teachers' conferences, which are traditionally held in January, as well as by parents' meetings. But this is only the beginning. Many soviets of people's deputies, work collectives and public organizations have also decided to hold special meetings to discuss the proposed reform.

The tradition of discussing most important state matters nationwide is of long-standing in the Soviet Union. In recent years alone there were several bills that became enacted only after being specified and amplified in the course of such discussions.

The CPSU Central Committee's draft guidelines for the economic and social development of the USSR for 1981-85 and the period ending in 1990 also were submitted for nationwide discussion. Work collectives and individuals made more than one million proposals concerning the draft. The USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the law on the 5-year development plan for 1981-85 with those suggestions taken into account.

The draft law on work collectives was also discussed widely in this country last year. The draft was scrutinized by hundreds of thousands of worker meetings. The opinions expressed by factory workers, cooperative farmers and office workers about the proposed law helped to perfect also that document, making it more complete and explicit.

There is no doubt that the collective opinion of millions of people will also help to implement the proposed, all-embracing reform in the Soviet school, whose draft has been submitted to the Soviet people.

The principle of the nationwide discussion of he more important matters of state has been formalized in the Soviet Constitution, namely in Article 5, and Article 9 of this Fundamental Law of the USSR lists greater openness and publicity and consistant responsiveness to public opinion among the guidelines for the development of the political system of Soviet society.

UZBEK OBKOM FIRST SECRETARY REELECTED

PM111340 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 10 January carries on page 2 a 1,500-word report entitled "Exhaustive Examination of Reserves" by correspondent A. Uzilevskiy, who writes from Uzbekistan. The article, under the rubric "Party Life: Reports and Elections," provides an account of speeches delivered by Uzbek Communist Party officials at a party conference in Surkhan-Darya Oblast on an unspecified date. The speeches outline the oblast's achievements and tasks in the 5-year plan. The report concludes: "At a plenum, A.K. Karimov was reelected first secretary of the obkom."

KAPITONOV SPEAKS AT CADRE TRAINING COURSE

PM111523 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 84 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Cadres' Studies"]

[Text] Chiefs of light industry and consumer goods departments of union republic Communist Party Central Committees and kraykoms and obkoms began studies 10 January at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Science as part of the latest set of cadre refresher courses.

The studies will examine topical questions of the theory and practice of communist building and the tasks stemming from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the conclusions and provisions formulated in the text of the plenum speech of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The course students will acquaint themselves with the activity of a number of party organizations and labor collectives of Moscow and Moscow Oblast and will exchange work experience.

CPSU Central Committee Secretary I.V. Kapitonov gave a lecture at the courses on questions of party leadership of the development of consumer goods production and the improvement of their quality.

LATVIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD

PM111553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 84 First Edition p 2

[Own correspondent O. Meshkov report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Riga, 10 Jan -- A Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum has been held here. Its participants discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the republic party organization's tasks stemming from the plenum decisions and the provisions and conclusions contained in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech.

A.E. Voss, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a report. The plenum noted that economic growth rates in the republic have increased and quality indicators have risen somewhat. The entire increase in production volume has been secured through increased labor productivity. Positive changes have also taken place in the implementation of the Food Program. At the same time a number of enterprises have not fulfilled their plan targets in terms of the main technical and economic indicators. The fact that social production efficiency is not growing at a sufficient rate is causing concern. The plenum resolution envisages that increased organization and discipline will be achieved at all levels of the national economy and that the working people's creative initiative will be developed.

MOLDAVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY PLENUM HELD 31 DEC

PM111031 Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIA in Russian 1 Jan 84 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee took place in Kishinev on 31 December. First secretaries of gorkoms and raykoms, chairmen of gorispolkoms and rayispolkoms, and leaders of republican ministries and departments not belonging to the Central Committee were invited.

A report "On the Results of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the Republican Party Organization's Tasks Arising from the Plenum Decisions and From the Provisions and Conclusions Contained in the Speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium" was delivered by Comrade S.K. Grossu, first secretary of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee.

The plenum heard reports from Comrade V.G. Kutyrkin, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Gosplan of the Moldavian SSR, on the draft State Plan for Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR for 1984, and from Comrade I.A. Savvin, Moldavian SSR minister of finance, on the draft Moldavian SSR State Budget for 1984.

The following comrades spoke in the debates: A.A. Mokanu, first secretary of Tiraspol Gorkom; A. A. Kishlar, first secretary of Orgeyevskiy Raykom; V.F. Semenov, chairman of Kishinev Gorispolkom; L.A. Stadnik, first secretary of Brichanskiy Raykom; V.K. Yarutin, Moldavian SSR minister of agriculture; V.S. Odobesku, cutter at the Kishinev Zorile Footwear Production Asociation; Ye. M. Karayon, first secretary of Kalarashskiy Raykom; and N.N. Lukyanov, Moldavian SSR minister of viticulture and winemaking.

The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee plenum unanimously adopted a resolution on the questions discussed, which will be published in the press.

On this the plenum finished its work.

Shortcomings Noted

LD311919 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Text] The Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee held a plenum today. The results of the December 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee were discussed, as well as the tasks facing the republican party organization which stem from this plenum's decisions and from the clauses and conclusions contained in the statements of Comrade Andropov. It was noted in the report by Comrade Grossu, first secretary of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee, and in the debate, that together with successes in economy there are also shortcomings. Thus, some branches of the national economy have not achieved a high executive and labor discipline, and there are reserves in the struggle for economy and thrift. A great deal of work lies ahead in the fulfillment of the decisions of the December Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and of the demands of the CPSU Central Comittee resolution concerning the work of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee in further improving the style and methods of functioning of the party organizations in the light of the decisions of the November 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The speakers said that the party organizations should themselves become more involved the production affairs of labor collectives; it is essential to concentrate forces on the main directions of the intensification of production, to safeguard an absolute fulfillment of the plan tasks.

The plenum approved in the main the draft State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Moldavian SSR and the republic's budget for 1984.

START OF NEW ECONOMIC EXPERIMENT REVIEWED

PM101006 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 1 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by B. Kulik, deputy minister of heavy and transport machine building: "Experiment Begins" -- first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] Our collective is not taking part in the experiment to expand economic independence, but in the new year, as previously, we will receive equipment manufactured at Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building Enterprises. So I would like to know how our suppliers have been preparing for work in the new conditions; and second, how these conditions will affect collectives' material prosperity.

V. Frolov, Elektrostal Plant, Moscow Oblast

It is natural that the consumers of our products are interested in the sector's readiness for the experiment since their working rhythm depends directly on how rhythmically and effectively we work in the new year. The interest in the social aspect of the experiment is also also very natural. As Yu. V. Andropov noted in the text of his speech at the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum: "Any successes in production development can be assessed at their true worth when they have an influence on improving people's well-being."

So how has the sector prepared for the experiment? Immediately after the publication of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers Resolution on Additional Measures to Expand the Rights of Associations and Enterprises in Planning and Economic Activity and on Increasing Their Responsibility for Work Results, the ministry began preparations. The collegium and a specially formed commission monitored all questions of organizational restructuring for work in the new conditions from sector headquarters to team level.

Economic studies were organized at all levels of management and in the production links. This helped enterprise specialists and workers understand the intricacies of the economic experiment.

Enterprises were informed of the 1984 targets for production, the introduction and assimilation of new equipment and capital construction and of the normatives and limits for material resources 2 months earlier than usual. Taking into account proposals received from collectives, personnel in the ministry apparatus, with the participation of specialists from a number of organizations elaborated and promptly informed enterprises of the necessary methodological and normative documents on the new conditions of planning and economic incentives.

What guarantees of material incentives have the experiments' participants received? The first and probably the chief guarantee is that now everything which the collective earns will remain in the collective and depends objectively on its work results. This guarantee is backed up by a new procedure for creating and distributing the main source of prosperity -- the wage fund. To form the wage fund this year, a normative method has been used: A normative for wage fund per ruble of normative net output has been set for all enterprises of the ministry of heavy and transport machine building. The normative, incidentally, is strict but realistic and stable. Everything the collective saves will remain at its disposal.

These funds can be used, for example, for supplements of 16-24 percent on the wage rates of highly skilled workers and for establishing wages of up to R250 for workers and increments of up to 50 percent of their salary rate for highly skilled engineering and technical personnel and employees.

Workers will also be able to receive supplementary payments for combining jobs, and the list of such jobs can be drawn up by collectives independently, without approval from higher organizations.

If a team fulfills a plan target with fewer personnel, bonuses for workers from the wage fund will be increased to 10 percent of their piece-work (basic) wage. The introduction of this element of the Shchekino method should give teams an interest in making fuller use of their reserves. In the sector as a whole this will help save the work of more than 24,000 workers.

I will note one more innovation. For those collectives which commission and assimilate major capacities this year, an additional wage fund for the planned period for achieving the design indicators and a material incentive fund are being allocated.

In the experiment it is planned to find ways to increase the degree to which collectives' prosperity depends on their work with consumers. Now each sector enterprise which fulfills 100 percent of its contractual commitments for deliveries will be able to increase the bonus fund by 15 percent. However, for each percentage point under fulfillment of the delivery plan, this fund will be reduced by 3 percent. Enterprises have also received the right to an increment of up to 30 percent of the wholesale price for creating highly efficient equipment. Thus if all these conditions are fulfilled, the material incentive fund and the sociocultural measures fund will be significantly increased under the new methods of calculation.

During the experiment it is important to create conditions which stimulate more effectively the acceleration of scientific and technical progress along with the saving of resources in every possible way. This task is very important for our sector: not only today's but also tomorrow's increase in efficiency in many sectors of industry depend on the technical standard of heavy machine-building output. For this reason the ministry's enterprises have received the right to create and to use independently a production development fund. Thus they will be able not only to consolidate their technical base but also, thanks to this, to create additional capacities for increasing output in 1985 by R75 million.

It will undoubtedly not be easy to work under the conditions of the experiment. Primarily the effort and creative activeness of each working person must be mobilized. But for these efforts to have the greatest effect, it is necessary to increase the responsibility of the ministry apparatus and all-union industrial associations for their coordination.

There are still considerable reserves here. As was noted at the recent CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, the leaders an specialists of the sector's headquarters must persistently improve the style of work in organizing the conduct of the experiment. In this connection ministry personnel have already taken a number of measures, particularly to improve the balance between production plans and material and technical supply plans for 1984 and to organize effective monitoring of enterprises' fulfillment of delivery commitments. Cyclical calendar schedules have been worked out for the most important types of products in accordance with delivery deadlines. Monthly schedules have also been drawn up for dispatching products. Day-to-day monitoring of their fulfillment will be carried out via the sector's main information center.

However, it must be noted that all these measures, like all the great preparatory work, will provide high end results only if the collectives of the enterprises themselves uncover their own reserves more fully. For ultimately the new economic rights and collectives' future prosperity are closely linked with increasing the responsibility of every working person in the sector for the results of his work.

MINISTER DENIES SERIOUS DAMAGE TO GAS PIPELINE

LD111402 Moscow TASS in English 1347 GMT 11 Jan 84

["Minister Dinkov: 'Speculations Around the Gas Pipeline Have Nothing To Do With Reality'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 11 TASS -- "The rumours circulated by bourgeois mass media that serious damage supposedly has been inflicted to the Urengoy-Uzhgorod gas pipeline as a result of an explosion and fire and that its commissioning will have to be put off, are false and have nothing to do with reality", a TASS correspondent was told by the USSR Minister of the Gas Industry Vasiliy Dinkov.

He explained that a fire had really happened recently at the compressor station under construction in Urengoy and that some equipment was damaged. But there was no explosion there and the damaged equipment would be replaced by analogous equipment in the nearest future. More than that, the compressor station in question is by no means "the biggest of the gas pipeline", as it is asserted, in particular, by THE NEW YORK TIMES but, on the contrary, the smallest one, which will go into operation only after pressure at the deposit drops to a certain level.

"The export gas pipeline is already in operation and at the same time the construction of compressor stations is being completed", the minister said. "At present it carries 37 million cubic meters of gas a day. In February it will be able to carry up to 70 million cubic meters a day and reach its full design capacity in the second quarter of 1984. All the contentions by Western propaganda that the pieple supposedly will not be ready by the scheduled date are nothing but an attempt to engage in wishful thinking".

CASPIAN SEA NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION REPORTED

LD101336 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Baku January 10 TASS -- The offshore fields of the Caspian have become the main suppliers of natural gas in Azerbaijan (Transcaucasus), the oldest fuel producing area of the USSR. In the past year the volume of gas output was almost 14,000 million cubic meters.

The successful development of offshore fields makes it possible to increase steadily the rates of introducing gas into the economy of the republic. At the present time gas, which is the most convenient fuel, is supplied to 95 percent of apartments in cities and 80 percent in the countryside in Azerbaijan. Most of electric power stations and mills and factories not only in Azerbaijan, but also in the neighbour republics of Georgia and Armenia, run now on gas. Gas is supplied to the latter republics though the Transcaucasian trunk gas pipeline.

Last year by [as received] 300 million more cubic metres of gas than was envisaged by the state plan target were extracted from the Caspian shelf, a TASS correspondent was told by Kurban Abasov, head of the Caspian gas producing amalgamation. This success, he pointed out, is due to a more rational operation of wells and automation of the main gas extraction processes. Inculuded in the automatic control system are, in particular, all wells of the Bakhar field (at a distance of 30 kilometres south of Baku), which yields almost fifty percent of the gas extracted in Azerbaijan.

A big automated gas producing area is being built near Bulla Island (60 kilometres south of Baku), where the deepest wells in the Caspian have been drilled. On the first days of the new year a big works has become operational there for the collection, separation and transportation of gas and gas condensate. It will help stimulate gas extraction in that part of the Caspian and eliminate its losses in transportation.

USSR LAUNCHES COSMOS-SERIES SATELLITES

Cosmos-1530 Launched

LD111602 Moscow TASS in English 1557 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 11 TASS -- Artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-1530", next in the series, has been launched in the Soviet Union today.

On board the satellite is installed scientific equipment designed to continue outer space exploration.

The satellite has an initial period of revolution of 90.1 minutes, maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 391 kilometres, minimum distance -- 206 kilometres, inclination of the orbit -- 72.8 degrees.

The onboard equipment of the satellite is functioning normally.

Cosmos-1531 Launched

LD120806 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 12 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched on Wednesday an artificial earth satellite of the Cosmos series, Cosmos-1531, to continue exploration of outer space. The satellite was put in orbit with the following parametres: initial period of revolution -- 105 minutes; maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 1,023 kilometres; minimum -- 994 km; inclination of the orbit -- 82.9 degrees.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

INTERPLANETARY STATIONS STUDYING VENUS

LD101722 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Two Soviet interplanetary stations studying Venus from the orbit of its satellites are continuing to transmit data every day. Over 70 radio hookups have been held since October, when the experiment was launched. The probes' radars are studying the planet's surface on a strip 9,000-km long and 150-km wide to instantly relay the information during such a linkup. The photography done by the probes has made it possible to draw the first map of Venus's northern regions. The probes were expected to carry out research up to the end of last year but their instruments are continuing to function normally.

DEVELOPMENT OF ROBOT TECHNOLOGY VIEWED

LD101723 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1245 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] An enormous role in speeding up the changeover from extensive to intensive development which is being carried out by the CEMA countries is being played by the all-round mechanization and automatization of production. The basis of this is computer equipment and robots. As calculations show, in certain operations robots raise labor productivity by 20-40 percent; and when robots are used in groups, labor productivity is increased by a factor of between two and four.

The state and prospects for the development of robot-technology in the CEMA countries and cooperation in this field is now described by Comrade (Pullman), adviser in the Scientific Cooperation Department of the CEMA Secretariat:

The development of industrial robot technology is nowconsidered to be one of the most important tasks in most of the CEMA countries. This has advanced fairly rapidly over the past few years, and particularly so in the Soviet Union. Whereas in 1975 there were 250 robots in operation in Soviet industry, in 1980 their number approached 7,000. There are hundreds of robots in operation in the industry of Bulgaria, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia. By the end of the present 5-year plan our total number will exceed 50,000. By 1990 the number will have reached 200,000.

A great role in such a rapid development of robot technology belongs to cooperation among the fraternal countries. Bilateral contacts in this field were established in the mid-seventies. One of the results of these has been the appearance of robots of Soviet-Czechoslovak and Soviet-Bulgarian production. The stage of all-round cooperation began in 1980 with the signing of the relevant agreement on scientific and technical cooperation and also the treaty on all-round international specialization and cooperation in the production of robots. This document envisages the division of labor between our countries in the production of 58 types of robot-manipulators. At the same time; the volume of deliveries of them from one country to another will amount to about 1,500 items during the current 5-year period. The deepening of cooperation has made unification and standardization necessary in this field, together with the working out of a single concept for the technical development of robot technology in the CEMA countries, and the coordination of joint actions.

The general agreement on all-round cooperation in the working out and organization of specialized and cooperative production of industrial robots which was signed by the CEMA countries in 1982 is aimed at resolving these issues. This, too, is being carried out successfully. As the basic direction for robot construction our countries have chosen the design of module robots. This kind of approach makes it possible to put together an automatic machine, from standard parts and components, for any type of production, rather than work out and produce machines of a completely new type each time.

According to the specialists' forecasts, by 1985 a large part of our robots will be those of the second generation, equipped with different sensory elements, including technical vision. By 1990 the basic types of them will possess microprocessor systmes which make it possible to analyze a situation and to make independent decisions. On the agenda is the creation of industrial manipulators that will be assembled by the new robots.

MOSCOW-SARATOV PRESS TRANSMISSION NOTED

LD091620 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Today's issues of PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA and other central papers have been transmitted from the capital to Saratov, a city on the Volga, via the communications satellite Gorizont. For the first time in this country, a new reception system, Moskva, has begun operation. With its help, photo-telegraph links are maintained via a stationary satellite. The advantages of the new system are that the image of the newspaper columns is received by a compact antenna which is erected right on the building of the local printing plant.

Following Saratov, the Moskva reception will also be used in other cities.

SHESTOPALOV ADDRESSES MILITARY BUILDERS

PM101419 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jan 84 Second Edition p 2

[Colonel I. Kusher report: "Working More Effectively"]

[Text] A conference of leadership personnel of construction and billeting organs of the USSR Defense Ministry has taken place to discuss tasks arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the provisions and conclusions contained in the text of the speech of Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The report by Marshal of Engineering Troops N. Shestopalov, USSR deputy defense minister for construction and billeting of troops, and the speeches by Colonel General B. Bychenko, chief of the military construction units' Political Directorate, and other participants in the conference analyzed the activity of construction and billeting organs in fulfilling capital construction plans, revealed reserves, and defined measures for implementing Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's instructions on the above plan growth of labor productivity by 1 percent and the reduction in the prime cost of output by an additional 0.5 percent.

Concrete ways of improving the efficiency and quality of construction, introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress, and strengthening discipline were outlined.

LENINGRAD MILITARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE HELD

Petrov Addresses Meeting

PM101110 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jan 84 Second Edition p 2

[Report by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Colonel A. Pinchuk under the rubric "Party Conferences": "Guarantee of New Successes"]

[Text] The complexity and acuteness of the international situation, the threat of a new war stemming from imperialism, and the need to reliably defend the Soviet people's constructive labor make high demands on the combat readiness of units and subunits, the level of combat and political training, and the vigilance, organization, and discipline of personnel.

A keen discussion of how these tasks are being resolved and how the daily activity of commanders, political organs, and the district party organizations implements the directives of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU General Committee plenums and the instructions of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, on defense matters took place at the party conference of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District.

The reports delivered at the conference by Colonel B. Svetkov, district commander, and Colonel M. Berdnikov, secretary of the party commission under the District Political Directorate, and the speeches by Lieutenant General V. Nechayev, member of the Military Council and chief of the District Political Directorate, and Comrades V. V. Girkin, Ye. Smirnov, S. Kiselev, and other delegates analyzed in depth and comprehensively key problems of combat readiness. There was discussion on the need to energetically improve the instruction material base, further intensify the study process, introduce in practice advanced ways and methods of using combat equipment and weapons, and make fuller use of their combat potential.

In close connection with these problems the conference delegates examined questions of executive discipline and of the mastering of the Leninist style of work by military cadres. Stress was laid on the idea that today's officer is simply incapable of successfully resolving the complex and multifaceted tasks of training and educating personnel and intelligently and flexibly controlling the actions of subunits and units without a creative and innovative approach toward work, a lofty sense of personal responsibility for the state of affairs in the sector entrusted to him, and a constant desire to improve his professional knowledge.

The conference devoted considerable attention to an analysis of the state of ideological and mass political work. It was noted that the districts's political organs and party organizations have taken an appreciable step toward its improvement in line with the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum. It has become more specific, and ideological measures are increasingly closely linked with life, with specific practical requirements, and with the tasks of combat readiness and of maintaining firm military discipline and regulation order. At the same time, as conference delegates Comrades A. Lazin, V. Andrianov, and others emphasized in their speeches, that such a resolute turnabout has by no means occurred everywhere. In some units and subunits the organizers of ideological work are showing timidity in its improvement and are poorly introducing active forms of influencing personnel, and in a number of cases propaganda measures suffer from excessive organization, conventionalism, and deviation from the real problems of life itself.

It was noted in the text of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech to the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum that "our successes will depend to a decisive extent on the mobilization of the masses, on people's creative attitude toward the work entrusted to them, and on the further development of socialist competition." The party conference delegates emphasized that this instruction fully applies to the Army communists. Analyzing in this connection the work to organize competition in the district's units and subunits, the delegates stressed that competition has become more specific and is aimed at qualitative indicators of personnel's combat training, and its influence on servicemen's moral education has increased. Competition has been widely developed in the district from the very first days of the new study year under the slogan "Be on guard, constantly prepared to defend the gains of socialism!" It is necessary, it was said at the conference, that this slogan be daily bolstered by the organizational work of commanders, political workers, and all communists. The participants in the competition must always keep their eyes on questions of economy, thrift, and the exemplary mastery of equipment and weapons and must wage an active struggle to learn to hit the target with the first shot, the first launch, the first round.

The conference was addressed by Marshal of the Soviet Union V. Petrov, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, and L. Zaykov, first secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom.

Further Details

PM111236 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 84 p 1

[LENTASS report: "Communist Servicemen's Conference"]

[Text] The 31st party conference of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District took place yesterday.

With great enthusiasm, the delegates elected a presidium of honor consisting of the Politburo of the CPSU Leninist Central Committee headed by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

A report was delivered by Colonel General B.V. Snetkov, commander of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. The report of the party commission attached to the district's political directorate was delivered by its secretary, Colonel M.S. Berdnikov.

The delegates expressed unanimous approval for the party's domestic and foreign policy and the fruitful activity of the CPSU Central Committee, which are aimed at increasing the motherland's economic and defense might, increasing the Soviet people's well-being, and strengthening peace throughout the world.

It was noted that in fulfilling the tasks put forward by the 26th party congress, the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, party organizations and servicemen in the district have achieved successes in combat and political training. In the period under review the role and influence of political organs and party organizations in units and subunits have been stepped up. Their activity is notable for its efficiency and the ability to see the most important thing and focus the communists' efforts on it.

The conference discussed the importance of persistent study of military matters and of constantly maintaining a high level of combat readiness among personnel. It is in light of this task, the delegates stressed, that we must assess combat and political training, the execution of duties, and the state of military discipline, as well as the conduct of servicemen on and off duty. Every serviceman should constantly ask himself: how has he fulfilled his duty and his military oath today, has he done all he can to enhance combat readiness? Communists have always set an example in this respect, and will continue to do so.

The delegates devoted great attention to improving the style of party work. Its center of gravity must be shifted to where all the questions of personnel's training and combat readiness are resolved -- in the company, battery, or squadron. Methods and forms of education must be found to meet the spiritual needs of young people in the Army as far as possible.

The conference was addressed by L.N. Zaykov, first secretary of Leningrad Obkom, and Marshal of the Soviet Union V.I. Petrov, commander of the Ground Forces, USSR deputy defense minister, and Hero of the Soviet Union.

Taking part in the conference were: obkom first secretaries N.A. Antonov -- Novgorod; V.N. Ptitsyn -- Murmansk; A.M. Rybakov -- Pskov, and I.I. Senkin -- Karelia; V.A. Zhukov, secretary of Vologda CPSU Obkom; P.P. Mozhayev, secretary of Leningrad CPSU Obkom; V.A. Mylnikov, chief of the Arkhangelsk Obkom Administrative Organs Section; and A.F. Dubov, secretary of Leningrad Gorkom.

The conference adopted a resolution aimed at further improving party work and enhancing the combat readiness of the districts' troops.

YEPISHEV BOOK ON MILITARY EDUCATION REVIEWED

PM101041 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jan 84 Second Edition p 2

[Book Review by candidate of historical sciences Major General D. Kuznetsov: "Selflessly Serving the Motherland"]

[Text] The appearance of any book devoted to the Soviet Armed Forces and heroic and patriotic education arouses keen interest among Soviet people.

In reading them, young people make spiritual contact with the venerated past -- the revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of their own people -- and take from the old generations their examples of selfless service of the motherland.

For this reason, it is believed, the reader will find great benefit in reading the book by Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, entitled "Sacred Duty, Honorable Obligation" recently published by the USSR DOSAAF Publishing House. (Footnote) (A.A. Yepishev, "Sacred Duty, Honorable Obligation" [Syvashchennyy Dolg, Pochetnaya Obyazannost], USSR DOSAAF Publishing House, 1983, 80 pages). It examines -- from positions of Marxist-Leninist theory, the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and the conclusions and recommendations contained in the speeches of Yu.V. Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium -- topical questions of the objective need to defend the gains of socialism, maintain high and constant combat readiness in the Army and Navy, and foster allegiance to duty and devotion to the Soviet motherland.

A central theme in the book is that in the current complex international situation, when the U.S. imperialists have unleashed an arms race of unprecedented scale in an attempt to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries, Lenin's party and the Soviet state are doing everthing to remove the threat of nuclear war from the peoples. In this context the Soviet Army and Navy, vigilantly guarding the gains of October, are a mighty factor for peace and security and a reliable means of curbing the aggressive forces of imperialism.

The author quotes the words of V.I. Lenin in the book: "Any revolution is only worth something if it knows how to defend itself."

These words are particularly topical today, when the attention of Soviet people and all of progressive mankind is focused on the statement of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in connection with the start of the deployment of the U.S. medium-range missiles in West Europe.

The chief advantage of socialism's military organization, the author notes, is that its development is directed by the Communist Party. In the leadership of Soviet military building the party attaches special importance to the part political work plays in the armed forces. It sees well organized ideological and party organizational work as a powerful means for ensuring high combat capability and combat readiness in the Army and Navy.

The book substantiates the idea that one of the most important sources of the Armed Forces' combat might lies in the unbreakable unity of the Army and people.

The author describes the main components of the Soviet Armed Forces' combat readiness and uses many specific examples to show the moral splendor of Soviet servicemen, their heroism, valor, determination, and courage. Great attention is paid in the book to fashioning a communist world outlook in servicemen and fostering in them a conviction of the justness of our great cause and devotion to duty.

In accordance with the general concept of the book, the author highlights questions of the military and patriotic education of working and young people in the overall system of ideological work. Every Soviet youth, the book says, will have to enter the military system at some time. Army and Navy service is an important stage in his life, a time of maturing and civic development.

The future armed defender of the motherland must prepare himself in advance to fulfill his constitutional duty in the moral, political, general educational, military, and technical sense and be physically fit.

The book spells out practical advice and recommendations for party and Komsomol workers and defense society activists for exposing the aggressive policy of the imperialists states, educating our young people in a spirit of hated toward the enemies of peace and socialism, and intensifying the struggle against bourgeois ideology.

In the section entitled "Reliable Reserve and Assistant" the author notes the contribution which DOSAAF makes to the military and patriotic education of working and young people. DOSAAF conducts broad propaganda among the population of military knowledge and the heroic traditions of the Soviet people and their Army, makes a considerable contribution to preparing young people for military service, and concerns itself with the development of sports with technical and military applications.

At the same time the book notes that by no means all opportunities are being utilized in DOSAAF's activity. There are unresolved questions in training specialists for the Armed Forces, especially in their practical training.

Party and Komsomol workers and DOSAAF activists will find in the book detailed answers to many important questions of educating young people and Soviet servicemen in the spirit of V.I. Lenin's behests and the demands of the USSR Constitution on defending the socialist fatherland.

The book by Army General A.A. Yepishev "sacred duty, honorable obligation" will actively serve the cause of educating young men and women in the revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the Soviet people.

KUNAYEV SIGNS KAZAKH COMMISSAR'S OBITUARY

PM111201 [Editorial Report] Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 January 1984 carries on page 3 a 200-word obituary of B.S. Yesmambetov, which begins:

"Major General Bulat Salakhadinovich Yesmambetov, member of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, Kasakh SSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and Kazakh SSR military commissar, died suddenly on 31 December 1983 at the age of 51. A man who devoted his entire life to the cause of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, to selfless service of the socialist fatherland, has been taken from us prematurely, in the full flower of his strength."

The obituary is signed by D.A. Kunayev and others.